

THE TIMES Tomorrow

Something old Man-traps for poachers, horse-drawn ploughs, engraved milk churns...



Something new League football begins live on television tomorrow with Tottenham Hotspur playing Nottingham Forest...

Prix An appraisal of the chances of the main English-trained hope, Time Charter, of winning the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe on Sunday...

Oil slick threat worsens The oil spill in the Humber from the tanker Sivad amounts to 6,000 tons...

Stock prices The Times regrets that because of technical difficulties, early editions are not carrying Unit Trust Price Tables...

Student plea Universities have been urged by the Government to take more students in 1984 and 1985...

Soldiers hurt Four soldiers in the Falklands were injured during a firing range exercise with live ammunition...

Cable TV deal The BBC has signed an agreement for its television programmes to be broadcast live in Belgium by cable television companies...

Chairman goes Mr David Newbigging, chairman of Jardine, Matheson the Hongkong trading company, has left the group after a 65 per cent fall in first-half profits...

Letters on NHS cuts, from Mr C. Peirce, and others; entry from N Ireland, from Professor T. Greenfield...

Obituary, page 14 Mr Alan Moorhead, Dr Harry Evans

Home News 2-4, Diary 12, Overseas 4-8, Events 32, Letters 13, Sports 14, 24, 25, Motoring 14, Bridge 6, 26-28, Business 10-25, TV & Radio 31, Court 14, Weather 32, Crossword 32, Wills 14

Thatcher delivers blistering attack on Soviet tyranny

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

Mrs Margaret Thatcher, living up to her reputation as the 'Iron Lady', yesterday delivered a blistering attack on the Soviet Union...

Mrs Thatcher noted to the speech that there were some differences between Britain and the United States...

School-leavers lift jobless to 3.16m

The jobless total jumped by 157,532 to 3,167,439 this month, the highest level for five months...

But the increase was about half the rate seen early in the year and Mr Norman Tebbit, Secretary of State for Employment...

Release of the latest figures coincided with a warning from Sir Terence Beckett, director general of the Confederation of British Industry...

Transport union 'will back Hattersley as deputy'

Two more moderate unions have joined the last-minute rush to back Mr Roy Hattersley as deputy leader of the Labour Party...

Costly disappearance at yearling sale

An incident reminiscent of the start of a Dick Francis thriller unfolded at the Newmarket Sales yesterday...

deter all threats and ensure in the end that triumph of freedom which America and Britain work for...

Such an accord, which she said was unlikely to be achieved in the short time available, would cancel American plans to deploy 572 Pershing 2 and cruise missiles...

Breakout fear remains at the Maze

Until the Northern Ireland prison authorities discover how five 25 calibre handguns were smuggled into the Maze prison...

The Northern Ireland Office has denied that Mr James Prior, Secretary of State, or Mr Nicholas Scott, the minister responsible for Ulster's prisons, are preparing to resign over the breakout.

The guard in the block's caged control room was shot twice through the head, then prisoners forced another prison officer to take his place in case of an escape.

Beirut airport reopens

Beirut international airport reopened yesterday, giving Lebanese civilians their first air link with the rest of the world in more than a month...

Hoskyns speech condemned

The controversial speech attacking the people who run Britain, made by Sir John Hoskyns, former head of Mrs Thatcher's Policy Unit, was roundly condemned yesterday by union leaders...



White House meeting: Mrs Thatcher and Mr Reagan

Russians deny 'invented allegations' Soviet trade official expelled for spying

Britain has expelled another Soviet official for spying. He is the first to be thrown out to six months and the ninth to two years...

His name was given as Vassil Vladimirovich Ionov who is not strictly speaking a diplomat but has been working at the Soviet trade mission in Highgate, North London, since April 1981.

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Tebbit reforms go ahead as union talks fail

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

Trade unionists will be given Mr Tebbit start again and statutory rights to be consulted conduct negotiating with the TUC on the basis of an 'open agenda' from which nothing will be enforceable in the courts...

There will be further talks between the Employment Secretary and the TUC on October 19 on trade union political spending, a topic which will figure in the forthcoming Bill...

Soviet trade official expelled for spying

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Vauxhall faces all-out strike from Monday

Vauxhall Motors was last night on the brink of an all-out strike after decisive votes at mass meetings of more than 90 per cent of the 14,500 manual workers to start a walk out at the end of the day shift this afternoon...

The most likely explanation for this latest expulsion from London is that it follows the unmasking of the three Russian officials in Ireland.

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Advertisement for Chanel Gentleman's After Shave Balm, featuring a bottle image and the text 'CHANEL FOR GENTLEMEN'.

Universities are urged to admit more students for same money

By Ngalo Crequer, of The Times Higher Education Supplement

The Government has urged universities to take more students in 1984 and 1985 to accommodate the "student bulge" - but they will not be given any extra resources.

A letter from the Department of Education and Science, signed by Mr Richard Bird, deputy secretary, has been sent to the University Grants Committee, urging universities to take more students and expressing concern at the potential reduction of opportunities.

The department has told the UGC informally that it would like to see the universities provide about 4,000 to 5,000 more places in the next two years.

The shortage of places has been made worse by a decision to restrict the number of polytechnic and college places.

The UGC will write to universities next week about the Government's advice. It will be up to individual universities whether to admit more students.

The UGC, at its annual retreat, at Oxford University, discussed whether universities should be encouraged to maintain their present student numbers up to the end of the decade despite a sharp fall in the size of the age group. If they did, the number of students in polytechnics and colleges would fall.

However, the committee has decided how to respond to the letter received from Sir Keith



Sir Keith Joseph: Considering changes

Joseph, Secretary of State for Education and Science, on September 1, in which he asked the universities to consider the effect of reduced funding.

A letter will be sent to all universities at the end of October asking them to consider several financial options and also what kind of institutions they would like to be.

They will be asked whether there should be three-tier university system, with the best concentrating on research and a third division emphasizing teaching; whether there should be more two-year courses; to the size of the age group; if they did, the number of students in polytechnics and colleges would fall.

The Committee agreed to make the debate as public as possible - unlike the 1981 cuts.

Health job losses may exceed 6,000

By Nicholas Timmins

Health ministers hope to announce the final details of the NHS manpower cuts today. The total number of jobs lost in 10 of the 14 regions is likely to approach and possibly exceed 6,000.

Mr Kenneth Clarke, Minister for Health, is to travel to Birmingham today to meet the chairman of the West Midlands Regional Health Authority, Mr James Ackers, to try to settle figures for that region.

The two other regions still to announce their targets, North-east Thames and North-western, hope to have ministerial agreement on the final figures today.

So far, 7 of the 14 regions have announced cuts totalling 3,891 posts, while four regions have agreed increases in their manpower figures on March this year of 1,163.

North-western is believed to have agreed a formula that involves 571 fewer jobs but North-east Thames is still waiting to hear its final figure.

The region was originally asked to cut 1,416 jobs. It has argued for a reduction of only 350, but on the form of the negotiations with the other three Thames regions the final figure is likely to be in the region of 1,000 jobs lost.

West Midlands has been asked for a cut of 790 posts and has offered in return 850. It has done so, however, on the basis that it disagrees with the Department of Health's baseline figure.

The original manpower targets set by the Department of Health and Social Security would have involved the regions in cuts of about 8,000 jobs.



Mr Ferris's young sons, David (left) and James, helping to carry their father's coffin in Donaghadee yesterday.

Town mourns Ulster jailbreak victim

From Richard Ford, Belfast

Mourners at the funeral of the prison officer killed by Provisional IRA terrorists during the breakout from the Maze prison in Northern Ireland heard a call yesterday from a Presbyterian Church minister for the Government to consider reintroducing the death penalty for terrorist murder.

The Government came under attack from two churchmen as the small seaside town of Donaghadee, co Down, which has escaped largely unscathed during 14 years of the troubles, mourned the killing of James Ferris on the day he should have been celebrating his eighteenth wedding anniversary.

The mourning was in stark contrast to the jubilation over

the escape expressed in the *Republican News*, a newspaper connected with the Provisional IRA. Under the headline IRA Blockbuster the newspaper welcomes the escape of 38 men, of whom 19 are still on the run, despite a big search.

Mr James Prior, the Secretary of State, and Mr Nicholas Scott, his junior minister in charge of prisons, were represented by a senior official at the funeral of Mr Ferris, aged 43, who was described by his local minister as a "brave and gallant officer".

Mr Ferris was stabbed to death during struggle near the main gates of the prison on Sunday afternoon.

His home town closed down as hundreds of mourners, includ-

ing the Rev Ian Paisley, leader of the Democratic Unionist Party, walked in the cortege, which was led by the pipe band of the Northern Ireland Prison Service.

Mr Ferris's coffin was draped with the Union Jack and carried by officers cap with wreath of red roses, chrysanthemums and carnations.

Five hundred people attended the service in Donaghadee's First Presbyterian Church. Men and women prison officers provided a guard of honour for the coffin as it was carried from the church by pallbearers, including Mr Ferris's sons, David, aged 15, and James, aged 13.

During the service, the Rev Victor Ryan said Mr Ferris

was a man of outstanding courage who had been brutally struck down by the enemies of Ulster. His death was but the latest "dastardly episode in the seemingly never-ending saga of death and destruction that is Northern Ireland".

Criticising the authorities, Mr Ryan said that too long people had had to listen to pious platitudes and promises.

"Let words give way to action that will restore a new confidence to the sorely tried people of this province; action that will be led to the defeat of evil, the wiping out of terrorism, and the restoration of peace and prosperity in our land, and if this means the reintroduction of the death penalty for murder, so be it."

Commentary

Geoffrey Smith

Mr James Prior is reported to have threatened to resign if his junior minister, Mr Nicholas Scott, is forced to leave office over the breakout from the Maze. That shows an entirely proper determination not to allow a subordinate to carry the can for a departmental responsibility.

But in what circumstances ought Mr Prior, or Mr Scott, for that matter, to offer their resignations?

The answer is simple if either of them is found to bear serious personal blame for what was undeniably a grave and damaging incident. One does not know what conclusions Sir James Hennessey will reach in the course of his inquiry, but at this stage there is no reason to suppose that either Mr Prior or Mr Scott will be judged to be personally culpable.

What is at issue now is the doctrine of ministerial responsibility. Should a minister resign because of a serious failure by someone in the public service for whom he bears ultimate political responsibility, even when he could not reasonably be expected to have prevented the lapse himself?

The question was posed dramatically last year when an intruder was discovered in the Queen's bedroom.

Mr Whitlaw could hardly have been required as Home Secretary to pad up and down the corridors of Buckingham Palace to assure himself that all was well, but there could be few more humiliating failures of security than not managing to protect the Queen in her own home. On a strict interpretation of ministerial responsibility he ought to have gone.

But would it make much sense in today's conditions to interpret the doctrine that strictly? It was first developed in about the middle of the last century when it became necessary to distinguish between collective and individual ministerial responsibility if the Government was not to fall every time one of its members blundered. That was at a time when a minister could reasonably be expected to keep an eye on everything of consequence that happened in his department.

The doctrine therefore accorded with the speciality of government in the Victorian age. But it no longer fits the reality of the post-war world when ministers preside over mammoth empires and could not possibly know even the names of everyone under their command, let alone watch what they are doing.

Eminent head had to roll

None the less, the perpetuation of the doctrine under these changed conditions has been justified on two scores: that in a world of inflated bureaucracies somebody has to be accountable to Parliament and the public when things go wrong; and that the fear of having their minister headed keeps civil servants on their toes.

Neither argument should be dismissed lightly. The need for proper accountability in a bureaucratic age is one of the most pressing problems of modern democracy.

The punishment of ministers to encourage civil servants may seem an excellent solution, but even to cause embarrassment to his minister is a blot on a civil servant's record.

The possibility of ministerial resignation is no more than an indirect threat to civil servants, but it is still a threat.

The cruel fact is that the Dugdale resignation could not weaken the Chancellor's Government. The departure of Mr Whitlaw last summer would have been a serious blow to Mrs Thatcher's Administration, without him or his colleagues having committed any personal mistake - for the sake of an indirect and uncertain advantage.

It cannot be assumed that the blighting of career prospects which means so much to a high-flying civil servant will be an effective sanction much lower down the line.

A Whitlaw resignation in such circumstances would have made the holding of high office even more of a lottery than it needs to be. The same applies to Mr Prior today.

The doctrine may still need to be applied in special conditions. I believe that while Lord Carrington's departure was a severe loss to the Government, he was more the less right to resign because an eminent head had to roll if the country was to unite in face of the Falklands invasion.

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Labour plea for town hall changes

The Conservative Party has won the hearts and minds of working people, but Labour can win them back by changing the way it runs the town halls, a prominent Labour councillor said in a Fabian pamphlet published yesterday.

Mr David Blunkett, leader of Sheffield City Council and a candidate for Labour's national executive committee, presented the success of his council as a model for a renewed expression of faith in "collective organization".

Mr Blunkett said that Mrs Thatcher had won the ideological battle and was out to establish an individualistic approach to social welfare. "The lessons of the inter-war years have been learnt well. It is clear that acquiescence and not revolution is the hallmark of the British worker under attack."

Labour's difficulty stemmed from the fact that local authorities which would resist the Thatcher tide were also those which had been paternalist and weakened popular support for their policies, he said.

Militancy returns Car unions want their reward

By David Felton and Clifford Webb

The flexing of little-used industrial muscles at Vauxhall could herald a fresh round of union militancy in the motor industry, which has been uncharacteristically mute over the past few years apart from isolated incidents.

A renewed self-confidence is apparent among car industry union officials, who detect a revival in the fortunes of their employers. They are determined to make up for lost ground in recent pay settlements when companies agreed successfully that big increases would lead to job losses.

Vauxhall, which is now facing a national strike, is the classic example of a company which has been turned around, with big losses being converted into a probable profit this year, at least on the car side, and whose unions are now trying to exact a price for their cooperation during the lean years.

Talbot UK, which is also experiencing something of a boom in sales and production, could face a similar union reaction in the next month or

so, when unions go in to negotiate the annual pay rise due in December. BL is lucky because it struck a two-year deal, worth about 5.6 per cent a year, which has still more than a year to run.

But in the foreground of the wage offensive are Vauxhall and Ford where negotiations on the annual pay deal start in London today. Ford is hoping that the Vauxhall dispute will be cleared up when it makes its opening offer on October 28, but even if it is not, it will use its traditional argument that the company makes its offer on

what it can afford, not in pursuit of a "going rate".

A main plank of the union's submission on behalf of 44,500 Ford manual workers today is likely to be a demand for a reduction in the working week from the present 29 hours.

That will probably be rejected out of hand by Ford, although the union will also be pressing for an increase not less than the 7.75 per cent at present on offer at Vauxhall. Ford has traditionally been the pace-setter for car industry settlements and last year concluded an 8.2 per cent deal.

THE 'BIG FOUR' MOTOR MANUFACTURERS

	Profit	Last year's settlement	Vehicle production last year
Ford	£194m (last year) £28.7m (this year)	8.2 per cent	463,000
Vauxhall	£27m (last year) £27m (this year)	8 per cent	147,750
BL Cars	£27m (last year) £1.5m (this year)	11.2 per cent (spread over two years)	413,000
Talbot UK	£1.5m (last year) £1.5m (this year)	8 per cent	65,000*

*Includes about 45,000 kits and transmissions for Iran

Assault ship and tanker collide

The Royal Navy assault ship Fearless was slightly damaged and a West German tanker was holed, spilling oil into the sea, when they collided in thick fog in the English Channel yesterday, six miles off Portland Bill, Dorset.

A storage tank, containing 400 tons of light diesel oil in the 1,600-ton Hamburg-registered Gerhart was holed above the water line on the port bow, although the spillage was said by the Navy to be slight.

Chapple to join water board

Mr Frank Chapple, last year's controversial chairman of the TUC, has accepted a government invitation to join one of the nine reshuffled water authorities. He was invited by Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for the Environment, to join the Southern Water Authority, which supplies his home town of Maidstone.

Mr Chapple is one of seven new members who will join the southern board of 11.

Jail escapes rising, report shows

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

The average length of crown court sentences fell after the first quarter of 1980.

In Scotland, more than 20,500 people were jailed compared with 15,500 in 1981 and 17,000 in 1980.

The reports' command numbers and prices are: 9057 (£7.40); 9027 (£11.75) and 8980 (£6). (Stationery Office).

Austin Rover prepares for new model

By Clifford Webb, Motoring Correspondent

Austin Rover's Cowley and Longbridge plants are to prepare the way for the new LM11 car by some workers working short time for up to five months and hundreds others being laid off.

But the upheaval will also create several hundred new jobs at both plants in the New Year.

The LM11, an enlarged version with a boot, of the successful Maestro hatchback, starts production at Cowley in January. The big Ambassador has been a bitter disappointment to Austin Rover.

Police face questioning on Waldorf

By John Witherow

The jury at the trial of David Martin was sent out yesterday when defence counsel said he intended to question a senior police officer about the shooting of Mr Stephen Waldorf.

Mr Justice Kilner Brown told Mr Ivan Lawrence, QC, for the defence, that it was not advisable "to develop this" with the jury present. He then heard submissions in their absence.

The questions were put to Chief Superintendent George News, in charge of the hunt for David Martin, who has had pleas of not guilty entered against 15 charges, including attempted murder of Police Constable Nicholas Carr.

Supt Ness told the jury at the Central Criminal Court that he was present when two safe boxes were opened after Mr Martin's arrest on September 15, 1982, which were found to contain guns and money.

He added that Police kept watch on Mr Martin's flat at Crawford Place, west London, for several days after his arrest in the hope that an alleged accomplice to a bank robbery would appear.

He named the suspect as William Orde and added: "I know where he is and would like to speak to him".

Mr Lawrence asked: "Was this the man suspected of being involved in a bank robbery where a security guard was shot in the leg?" Supt Ness replied: "Yes, I think so."

Mr Martin faces two charges connected with a Lloyds bank robbery on July 29, last year. Although the Crown has not alleged that he shot the guard, Edward Burns, he is said to have been an accomplice.

Mr Lawrence also told the jury that Mr Martin, aged 36, had been found unconscious on May 1, this year, in Brixton prison.

THE WORLD'S WEATHER HAS GONE MAD



With floods and drought in over 40 countries, that's how it must seem to the victims.

In the Southern Hemisphere the lives of tens of millions of people have been thrown into chaos.

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Store must pay damages to woman who was wrongly branded a thief

From Our Correspondent, York

A spinster, aged 72 yesterday, won her legal battle with a store which had branded her a thief, and she hailed her victory as a landmark for individual freedom.

Miss Doris White, a pensioner, was awarded £1,295 damages to be paid by the department store which wrongly accused her of shoplifting and subjected her to a humiliating interrogation.

The civil case was the first to be heard by a jury at York County Court in 40 years. The judgement could force retailers to re-examine their approach to suspected pilferers.

Miss White had been accused of stealing a Christmas card from W. F. Brown Limited, of York, while shopping in December 1981. The police later discovered she had not stolen or bought any item from the store.

But the jury was told that the store's department manager, Mr Paul Stabler, followed her through the city centre after receiving third-hand information from an unidentified snapper that she had taken the card.

Miss White, of Hampden Street, York, was accused several minutes later by Mr Stabler who at first did not identify himself but snatched her bag in an attempt to search it.

Miss White was taken back to the store and detained under guard in a changing cubicle in full view of curious customers until the police arrived. She suffered the shock of being put into a police van and then given a body search at the police station. But no stolen property was found and she was not prosecuted.

She told the court she had been shocked by her "disgusting" treatment. The jury decided that in law he had trespassed on her property and awarded £775 damages.

The jury decided the store had falsely imprisoned her and was responsible for her being held by the police for one and a half hours. They awarded a further £520 for the cost to her dignity.

Mr Barry Mortimer, QC, the Recorder, also awarded Miss

White full costs, estimated at £3,000.

After the case Miss White said she had been offered a settlement by the store of £600 several months ago. But she told them she was not interested in money.

"I am only interested in people's freedom and I felt they should be publicly humiliated in the same way I was.

Miss White had spent most of her savings on the case which up to the hearing had cost her about £1,000. But the final damages awarded by the jury was made with a limit of £3,000. Her solicitor Mr Mark Burn said that if the jury had awarded less than £600, the amount the department store had paid into court, then Miss White would have had to pay the costs estimated at over £3,000.

Miss White said: "I do not know where I would have found the money but that did not worry me because I knew I was in the right. It was a gamble but this country has always been proud of its freedom".



New Lord Mayor: Lady Donaldson, wife of Sir John Donaldson, Master of the Rolls, was elected as the first woman Lord Mayor of London. She was also the first woman member of the City's Court of Common Council and, two years ago, she became the first woman Sheriff. But when asked about becoming Lord Mayor she said: "I do not think it nearly as important to a woman to achieve the mayoralty as to a man". (Photograph: Martin Mayer).

Film against glue sniffing will not be seen in schools

By David Nicholson-Lord

A new code of practice to help shop assistants to spot glue sniffers is being drawn up by the Government and retailers. Details are expected to be announced before Christmas.

The Department of Health yesterday launched its latest propaganda campaign against glue sniffing among teenagers, a 40-minute film to show police, social workers, teachers and doctors how and why children take up the practice and what risks they run.

But the film, *Illusions: A film about solvent abuse*, will not be shown in schools. That decision was criticized yesterday by Release, the voluntary agency which advises in drug problems.

The film includes interviews with young people explaining why they began glue sniffing. The department says that showing it to school children would encourage them to start.

Release said yesterday: "That is like refusing to show a sex education film on the ground that children should not be encouraged to know about sex. Young people are inevitably going to know about glue sniffing and it is in their interests that they get the best unbiased information they can, to avoid making mistakes.

The Government is likely to reject calls for a ban on the sale of solvents to under-16s to counter what has been described as an epidemic of glue sniffing amongst teenagers. Mr John Patten, Under Secretary of State, said yesterday that such a law would be difficult to frame and enforce.

Only one of several attempts by MPs to introduce tighter controls has succeeded. The Solvent Abuse (Scotland) Act, 1983.

In the period from 1970 to 1981 60 deaths resulted from solvent abuse. In the past three years, however, there have been 130 fatalities. In some deprived areas, one in three children aged between 13 and 15 are thought to be experimenting with solvents.

But in England and Wales it is not illegal, except when it causes a breach of the peace. In Scotland children abusing solvents can be taken into compulsory care under the new Act.

Calls to ban sales to young people or add foul-smelling additives to glue have been criticized as unfair and impractical by manufacturers. Some retail chains such as John Menzies and branches of Woolworth, have their own controls.

A High Court judge in Scotland last month ruled that two shopkeepers should go on trial for culpable and reckless conduct for allegedly supplying at least 18 children aged between eight and 15 with solvents and containers.

But despite links with truancy and sickness, an evidence that long-term use may cause damage to brain, liver, kidneys and the nervous system, glue sniffing is not biochemically addictive.

An advice worker said yesterday: "Most kids are off and on it for a couple of years at the most, usually for a far shorter period. Once they can afford it and they can go into pubs, they move on to alcohol and tobacco".

Footballers blamed over hooliganism

From Stewart Tandler, Crime Reporter, Torquay

Greater self discipline by professional footballers during matches, a ban on alcohol and more restrained press coverage could help to curb football hooliganism, the manager of Leeds United told a conference of senior police officers yesterday.

Mr Eddie Gray, speaking at a seminar on soccer hooliganism at the annual conference of the Police Superintendents' Association in Torquay, said footballers have a duty to show discipline and respect other players and the decisions of officials.

Players, he said, were "idolized". If they behave in an incorrect manner that could lead to crowd trouble. On the field of play there should be no gestures of the opposition, officials or crowds. Mr Gray said if a player stepped out of line he would fine him.

Turning to the press, Mr Gray said that in the past newspapers had sometimes unwittingly glorified hooligans.

"Drink should not only be banned from clubs on match days, but anyone trying to smuggle in alcohol or arriving at grounds drunk should be banned.

During the seminar the association reiterated its own policy on soccer hooliganism, which includes greater controls on alcohol and the classification of matches in a manner similar to the system used for films.

Mr John Keyte the association's secretary, said the aim was to have senior officers reporting on conditions at matches and the reports would be used as the basis of classifications when the game was next played. Certain matches might become ticket only, others would exclude children under 16 unless accompanied by an adult.

Mr Eddie Gray: 'Impose fines'.

Trireme plan for jobless

By Rupert Morris

Plans are under way to build a trireme, the type of craft in which the Greeks defeated the Persians at Salamis in 480BC, in the port of Merseyside, with the help of the young unemployed.

The Trireme Project began in 1975 with a long-running academic debate in the columns of *The Times*, and led last year to the establishment of the Trireme Trust, with the aim of recreating the ancient ship and settling the arguments about how it worked once and for all.

Professor John Morrison, former president of Wolfson College, Cambridge, Mr Frank Welsh, of Grindley's Bank, and Mr John Coates, former naval architect at the Ministry of Defence, have harnessed their talents to test models, raise money and find somewhere to build the trireme.

After some informative but ultimately abortive negotiations with museums in Greece, the trust organizers are now planning their hopes on Merseyside.

Model testing conducted by Mr Coates at Southampton University seems to have disposed of any obvious technical difficulties and some Cambridge oarsmen demonstrated earlier this year at Greenwich that three banks of oars could be operated simultaneously, generating sufficient speed to run an engine.

It had been suggested by sceptics that the trireme would have had to hoist sail to reach the required ramming speed of nine knots.

Yesterday Mr David Mitchell, a member of the Merseyside Task Force established by the Government in the wake of the Toxteth disturbances, said: "If the financial details are acceptable to both sides, it is possible that this ship could be built next year.

Forty young people and 20 experienced craftsmen are now employed under the Youth Training Scheme building a replica of a pilot schooner which sailed the Mersey in 1850, a project scheduled for completion in 1984.

The Mersey Maritime Trust is expected to approve the trireme project in the next two weeks, provided the money can be found. Professor Morrison, said yesterday he hoped that the £250,000 he considered necessary for buying materials would be provided by sponsors.

Gifts to the Trireme Trust should be sent to the Treasurer, Mr Vice-Marshal Peter Tunbridge, Wolfson College, Cambridge.

Right-to-buy tenants win garden ruling

A Judge has told a district council, which wanted to charge tenants an extra £8,000 to buy the garden of their home, that the garden must be covered by the original price of the house.

The council told the family it would sell the three-bedroom property for £25,000 but later increased the price to £33,000 to include the garden.

In the first test of the right-to-buy provisions of the Housing Act 1980, Mr and Mrs John Broad told Tunbridge Wells Crown Court that they believed the figure fixed by the council in February, 1981, included the quarter-acre plot adjoining the house in Barnetts Road, Leigh, Kent.

Judge Lovegrove, QC, ruled that as they were tenants of the house and garden they were entitled to the garden's use. Both were included in the £25,000 offer. He dismissed Sevenoaks District Council's contention that because the family had not replied to the proposal within 28 days it no longer applied.

Costs were also awarded against the council.

The judgment will encourage tenants to insist the garden is included in the sale of their property.

After the original offer, Mr and Mrs Broad delayed the purchase for 18 months and saved for a mortgage. But when Mrs Linda Broad visited the council offices in September last year to complete matters she was astounded to discover the valuation did not include the garden.

At first, the council refused to sell the garden because it said it wanted it for a housing development. When it eventually agreed, it demanded £8,000 more.

Mrs Broad said yesterday she hoped her successful fight would help other tenants.

A Sevenoaks council official said: "This ruling may make life more difficult for local authorities. We are unhappy that the Broad's have got a cheap deal and we are considering an appeal.

In fact, the Broad family will pay only £15,000 for the property because of a 40 per cent discount on their 13-year tenancy.

Royal breakfast hopes

By John Lawless

Princess Anne is following in her father's footsteps in promoting British exports.

On Tuesday, a week after opening Britain's first slip-formed, deep-water silo for grain exports at Southampton, she is to have breakfast with 25 international food buyers at Harrods.

She will arrive at 8.30am at the store's Georgian restaurant, where buyers from France, Belgium, Holland, Luxembourg, Italy and the United States will be waiting.

The British menu will start with apple juice. Mr William Marlow, a director of the Food From Britain export campaign, said yesterday: "You have to avoid orange juice and coffee - they are not British products".

Harrods' pork sausages, mushrooms and tomatoes are to be on the menu, sunnyside-up eggs have given way to scrambled. Fried potatoes will complete the main course.

The meal ends with toast and marmalade, strawberry preserve and honey. Then the foreign buyers will visit a Naturally British food promotion, which is run at Harrods for three weeks, and a trade show of 40 firms at the Hyatt Carlton Tower Hotel.

British food exports were worth £2.5bn last year and are expected to increase by £400m this year.

Leeches make a comeback

Leech, the slimy black parasites first used in the sixth century BC for blood letting, have found new popularity with plastic surgeons, an article in the latest edition of the medical magazine, *Pulse*, claims.

Mr Peter Mahaffey, a registrar in the plastic surgery department of Carniesburn Hospital, Glasgow, says: "Nowadays, we think of leeches purely as a small machine to cause bleeding."

When new skin is grafted onto an injured area, a good blood supply is vital.

"I have carried out an extensive study of 120 cases in which leeches have been used when plastic surgery and none of the patients became infected", Mr Mahaffey is quoted as saying.

"Leeches release an antiseptic into the bite", he adds, "It is not in the interests of a parasite to destroy its host."

"Obviously, leeches must not be used on more than one patient as blood diseases and infections are quite likely to be transmitted."

£24m boost for cheese makers

By John Young, Agriculture Correspondent

A £24m investment in manufacturing plant for British cheese was announced yesterday by Express Dairy.

The company's plans include doubling the production of Siltton at its Melton Mowbray creamery, and developing regional soft cheeses to compete with Continental imports.

Mr Alan Sealy, marketing manager of Express Creameries, said yesterday that imports now accounted for more than a quarter of the British market.

In spite of falling sales of Cheddar, European manufacturers were still obsessed with producing hard cheeses, which simply added to the surplus "mountain", he said.

Britain was being flooded with imports of substandard Cheddar, much of it illegally subsidised.

Express Dairy's new and modernized manufacturing plants are expected to create more than 140 extra jobs in Scotland, Cumbria, Shropshire and Devon.

Death case mistress to appeal

Lawyers acting for Mrs Pamela Megginson, who was sentenced to life imprisonment at the Central Criminal Court on Wednesday for murdering her wealthy lover with a champagne bottle, are to appeal against conviction.

Sir David Napley, her solicitor, said yesterday it was too early to say on what grounds the appeal would be made.

Megginson, aged 61, of Whittlespool, Cambridge, had denied murdering Mr Alec Hubber, aged 79, a furniture manufacturer, at his luxury flat in the South of France after he rejected her for a younger mistress from Monte Carlo.

Emigrating to Falklands

Mrs Ann Green, of Rhyll, North Wales, whose son, a Welsh guardsman, died in the Buff Cove action, is to emigrate to the Falklands.

Mrs Green, aged 41, has got a job as a cook at the Upland Goose Hotel, Port Stanley. Her reasons for going are not sentimental, she says. "What attracts me is the simple life and the friendship and community spirit."

River patrol to combat poachers

The Welsh Water Authority has launched a patrol by uniformed bailiffs equipped with a speedboat, walkie-talkies and police-trained assistants to combat increased salmon and trout poaching on the rivers Usk and Wye.

With high prices for trout and salmon, organized gangs, many armed with knives and shotguns, have turned to poaching from burglaries or other petty crime.

Woman died after mugging

A verdict of unlawful killing was recorded at Battersea Coroner's Court yesterday on a woman aged 89 who died 48 hours after being mugged.

Mrs Jessie Adams of Dagnan Road, Balham, south west London, clung on to her handbag after she was knocked to the ground. Her attacker ran away and Mrs Adams was taken to hospital with a fractured hip. She died later after a cardiac arrest.

Rare chance

Lord Gowrie, Minister for the Arts, has suspended the licence to export a rare, 200-year-old American comb until November 26 to give museums in Britain a chance to buy it.

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Bristol	Reliance	0272-287071	London East	Asumatic	01-827-1842	Nottingham	S.B. Systems	06236-6170
Bristol	Reliance	0272-74191	London East	Asumatic	01-723-4026	Nottingham	Modern Communications	0202-87718
Bristol	Reliance	0272-36882	London East	Asumatic	01-402-7536	Nottingham	Electronic Revolution	0802-21011
Bristol	Reliance	0273-820404	London East	Asumatic		Nottingham		

Music week aims to reverse decline

By Christopher Warman, Arts Correspondent

The learning and playing of music in Britain is in decline, despite the orchestras, opera, ballet and festivals which are the envy of the world.

That startling view comes from Mr Michael Boxford, chief executive of Boosey and Hawkes, the music publisher and hand and orchestral instrument manufacturer.

Launching Making Music Week, which runs from tomorrow to October 8, is an attempt to reverse the trend, Mr Boxford said yesterday that research in the past few years showed that fewer children were taking up musical instruments each year; the decline was about 15 per cent in 1982 alone. The musical instrument industry has contracted by about a quarter in the past six years.

Mr Boxford said: "We believe that music in Britain is in danger, and we mean the actual making of music: people learning to play musical instruments, particularly school children; those people who go on to become committed amateurs as well as the select few who become professionals."

One of the main reasons for the decline, according to Mr Boxford, was the cut in educational spending, which had fallen heavily on music teaching. One of the most vulnerable areas was that of the peripatetic music teacher.

The aim of Making Music Week, which is claimed to be the biggest ever promotion for music in the United Kingdom, is to "reinvigorate everybody of the pleasure and rewards that making music can bring".

At a recent meeting, Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Education and Science, assured Mr Boxford of his support for the campaign. The campaigners want the Government to give music a more prominent place in the school curriculum.

The week will include concerts, "almost free" lessons and the "greatest oompah band in the world" - an attempt at a world record gathering of tuba players numbering up to 300 at the Queen Elizabeth Hall in Oldham on Sunday.

Violent video men jailed for attack

From Our Correspondent, Southampton

Two men who attacked a trainee shop manager after watching a video of *The Warriors*, a film about American gangland violence, were jailed by Winchester Crown Court yesterday.

Paul Mundy, aged 25, who has four children, and his friend, Robert Peacock, aged 26, who has no children, made an unprovoked attack on Mr Christopher Fellows, aged 19, a student of kung fu, after consuming a cocktail of drink and drugs.

Mr Fellows, who was walking across a car park in Basingstoke, Hampshire, last May, was hit about the head and neck with a heavy chain by Peacock. Mundy plunged a knife into him, puncturing his liver.

Mundy, of Gainsborough Road, Basingstoke, was jailed for four years, after being convicted of wounding with intent to cause grievous bodily harm.

Peacock, also of Gainsborough Road, was jailed for 21 months after admitting actual bodily harm.

Garage licensing 'would reduce overcharging and bad workmanship'

By Derek Harris, Commercial Editor

Garages, which attract more than 10,000 complaints a year over servicing and repairs, could be brought into line by statutory licensing.

That is one suggestion made in a discussion paper published by the Office of Fair Trading yesterday. It fuels the growing criticism over the poor performance of garages. Comments on the paper are required by December 31.

Earlier this week the Association of Metropolitan Authorities called for stronger laws to deal with careless and incomplete servicing and overcharging. A Merseyside council's investigation had shown that some garages did as little as 10 per cent of work required by manufacturers at regular servicing periods, the association said.

The steady stream of complaints about garage services seemed to arise through poor communication or poor workmanship, the OFT said. Sir Gordon Borrie, Director General of Fair Trading, also highlighted what he described as the persistent lack of public confidence in the motor trade.

That was despite many efforts by it to increase customer satisfaction, including the industry's code of practice. Sir Gordon said: "At the very least there is a serious breakdown in communication between many garages and consumers. This relationship must be improved and in view of the emergence of new competitors in this field, such as specialist exhaust replacement firms and do-it-yourself car maintenance centres, it is now more than

ever in the interests of garages not to botch the job."

Licensing of garages to ensure quality levels in servicing, which is in force in parts of the United States, Canada, Australia and Japan, could take more than one form, the OFT says. A positive system would involve a garage before opening securing a licence from a central or local authority which would have to be convinced of the garage's suitability.

Such licensing would be expensive to administer and the cost would feed back to the consumer if the costs were recouped by charging garages a licensing fee, the OFT says.

Alternatively a trading prohibition could be imposed on any garage found unfit. The cost

of that system would fall on government.

Sir Gordon will examine how local authorities in Scotland use new powers under which they can enforce licensing on second-hand car dealers. It could give an early test of the possible effectiveness of licensing in raising standards of servicing.

Until the licensing issue is resolved, the OFT wants action on several fronts. Car makers and importers should increase random checks on franchised garages. The Motor Agents' Association and the Scottish Motor Trade Association should introduce a grading system in their garage guide for consumers.

The Office of Fair Trading also wants the Automobile Association and the Royal Automobile Club to introduce quality checks into their garage appointment schemes and to offer their diagnostic services to non-members.

The OFT also calls for several specific improvements at garages. Customers should be given the choice of repairs to defective components as well as replacements, with alternative quotations.

More training should be given to reception staff, who sometimes know less than a knowledgeable motorist. Display boards quoting typical charges for servicing are suggested, and cards at the reception counter on which customers could register complaints.

Car Servicing and Repairs: A discussion paper (Office of Fair Trading, 15-25, Beams Buildings, London EC4A 1PR).

Mr Hard: Responsible for civil defence.

conclusion that effective regional or national planning for a nuclear war is impossible.

The BMA believes the Government's plans have some merit for a conventional attack, but that in a nuclear war the rigid centralized structures envisaged would be ineffective because of massive devastation.

It is extremely doubtful, however, that the BMA will be able to persuade the Government to accept that view.

News of the proposed meeting came as the Royal College of Nursing published review of the nuclear war plans, concluding that they were "totally inadequate".

The measures offered in the Government's *Protect and Survive* give a "naïve and misleading" representation of their effectiveness in protecting the population, the college said.

The scale of devastation would be such that the skills and training of any surviving nurse would be "virtually irrelevant".

Nurses would have nothing to offer survivors except words of comfort. "To talk of planning for, and training in, mass casualty techniques in such circumstances is meaningless, as any surviving nurse could do nothing to assist."

Survivors would lack a clean environment, uncontaminated food, stable social structure and the basic knowledge and skills needed for survival.

The report postulates the effect of a conventional attack on Bristol and concludes that of the 7,000 hospital beds and 6,564 nurses in the area, about 100 beds and 330 nurses would be left to deal with 85,000 casualties.

Mr Aubrey Singer, managing director of BBC Television, speaking at the PRIX Italia, said that not only Britain but the whole of western Europe was about to become "an offshore profit area" for American producers.

To combat that he called for the setting up within the EEC of a supra-national audio visual production authority. His proposal was enthusiastically backed by representatives of the Italian broadcasting service, RAI.

Mr Singer said "You can try to impose quotas to ensure that all television services carry a certain proportion of home-grown material, but it does not work because people can fill the necessary hours with quiz shows if they want to".

Ministers to defend nuclear war measures

By Nicholas Timmins

Ministers are to meet the British Medical Association and the Royal College of Nursing to counter their fierce criticisms of government plans for civil defence in the event of a nuclear war.

The two organizations have been invited to a meeting next month with Mr Douglas Hurd and Mr John Patten, the Home Office and Department of Health ministers responsible for civil defence.

The meeting is likely to provide a crucial test of whether the BMA in particular is prepared to stand by its

conclusion that effective regional or national planning for a nuclear war is impossible.

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Where rich and poor collide

On the poverty line

In his second and final article, Christopher Thomas looks at the economic disparities between Mexico and the United States.

The United States-Mexico border is a separate country 2,000 miles long. Cultures, exchange rates, history and language interact and have created a unique personality, a strange stateless way of life, and a peculiar dialect called "Spanglish". It is where opposites have learnt to blend.

It is where the human consequences of Mexican-US relations are to be seen, where the world's richest country shoulders with the Third World. Each nation depends to a large extent on the other, and the border is a reflection of that.

A tumbledown fence marks 700 miles of the frontier from El Paso and westwards along the southern borders of New Mexico, Arizona and California. Elsewhere the Rio Grande takes over. For generations Mexicans and Americans have criss-crossed the arid terrain, sometimes creating prosperity for themselves by exploiting exchange rates and black markets.

In the United States there are border towns like Brownsville, Nogales and Calexico that have more in common with Mexico than their own country. Some of them contain terrible poverty by United States standards, but the sad occupants can see across the border towards even worse degradations.

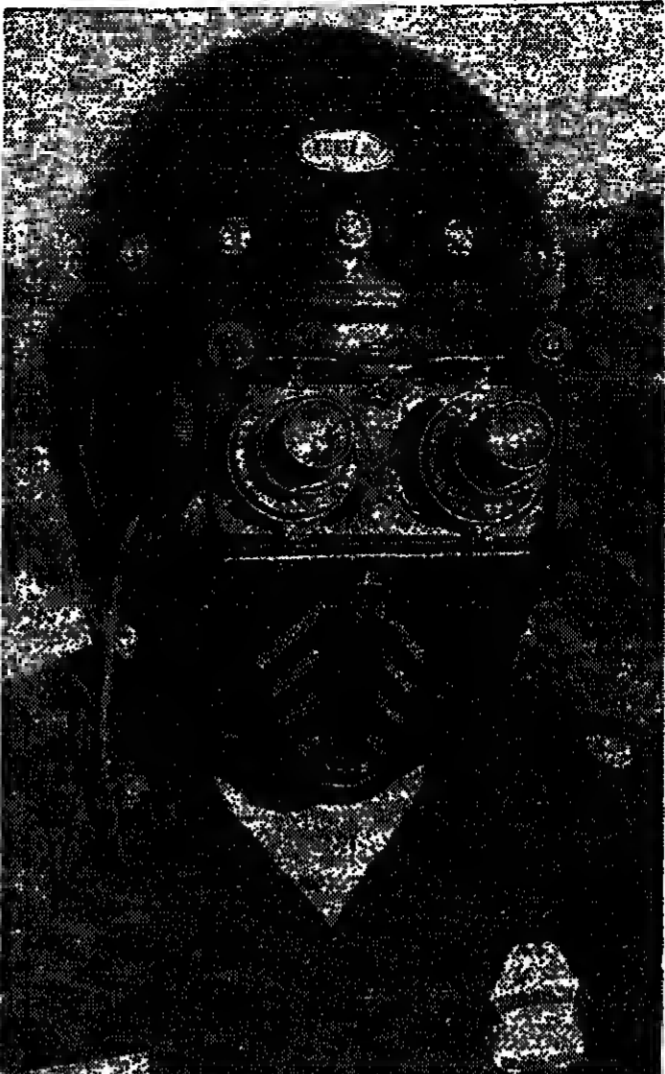
New figures show that for the first time the number of illegal immigrants caught and sent back by American immigration authorities is running at more than one million a year and still growing. The reasons are economic, not political.

A good proportion of the "illegals" stay for a season, usually in one of the border states, and return home. Others wade across the Rio Grande, with entire families, their possessions strapped to their backs, hoping that some American farmer will exploit their cheap labour.

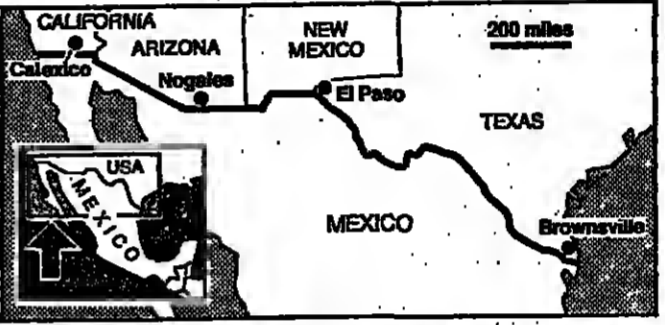
The influx has not reached crisis proportions - but, say the Americans, what if Mexico's half-century of stability crumbles under pressure from its unstable neighbours? What if Mexico's neighbours become so brutal that hordes of refugees flock north, destabilizing Mexico? What if refugees from all over Central America head for the United States?

Even the US worries the stability of Mexico is best ensured by the prevention of left-wing advances in Central America. The turmoil and confrontations in the isthmus are viewed by the US in an East-West context, as an area of fundamental struggle between the two superpowers.

Mexico sees it differently. The falling domino theory is not accepted. Mexico perceives the real threat as the international economic situation and its potential for creating social unrest. A Mexican government official said: "Poverty is what threatens us, not ideology. I cannot believe that a peasant in the countryside cares about



Border warder; An American patrol officer with image-intensifier glasses for night raids.



able economic crisis since the 1910 revolution. The growth rate is virtually stagnant, a harsh experience after an oil-inspired boom of spectacular proportions. Inflation this year will be about 80 per cent, and the peso is still falling.

For these reasons, more people are heading north to America in search of a livelihood. At the same time, thousands of Guatemalans have headed north into Mexico, a desperate people fleeing the brutality of their country's right-wing leadership. The strain on Mexico's feeble resources is enormous.

The tide heading north, therefore, is gaining momentum for both political and economic reasons. As the flow increases, so will tensions in Mexican-US relations.

UNITED STATES AND MEXICO Part 2

communism or capitalism. He cares about himself, about his family."

There are obvious social tensions in Mexico, a country marked by enormous distortions of wealth distribution. It has not experienced a compar-

part as well as to many parts of China and the United States."

Mr Weinberger quoted a senior Chinese Navy official as saying the Navy's task had become more difficult in recent years by the growing threat of the Soviet Union.

"It is a threat I know you are deeply concerned with and it is a threat which we are concerned with."

Diplomats regard plans for Mr Reagan and Mr Zhao to exchange visits as a remarkable sign of the way Sino-US ties have improved in recent months. Relations had been severely strained over US arms sales to Taiwan, but tension eased this summer after the United States announced it was lifting a ban on exports to Peking of advanced technology with potential military applications.

Leading article, page 13

Damages for shot burglar

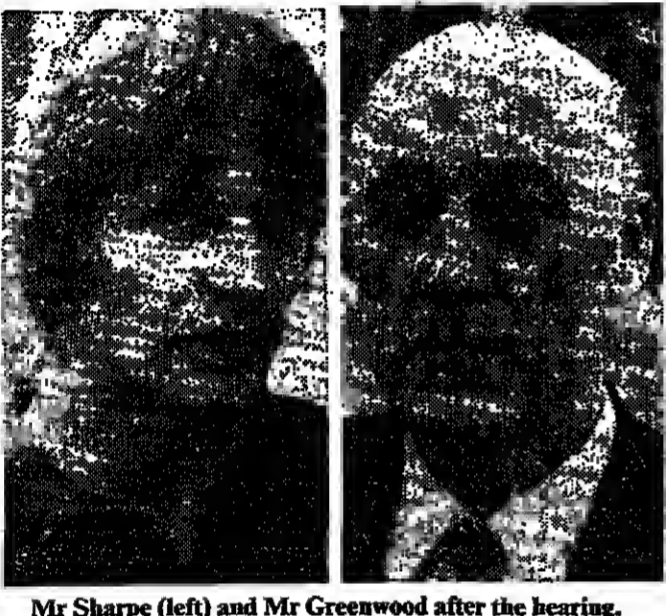
A man who fired a shot which injured a fleeing burglar was ordered to pay him £512 damages yesterday. At a High Court sitting in Nottingham, Judge Jowitt, QC, was told that Mr William Greenwood, aged 56, a former firearms dealer, was alerted by the sound of breaking glass from the home of his neighbour, a woman aged 81, in Little Eaton, Derby.

Mr Greenwood, who was ill at the time, and in his dressing gown, sent for the police and took out a .38 Webley revolver. Together with his two sons, he mounted guard over his neighbour's house. Two burglars leapt out of a window and dashed down a footpath. Mr Greenwood shouted to them: "Stop, or I'll shoot." But the men kept running.

He fired a blank cartridge, but when the men continued to make their getaway, carrying a cashbox, he fired five live cartridges into the ground.

Judge Jowitt said: "As a man experienced with firearms, Mr Greenwood must have realized the danger of what he was doing. He acted in the agony of the moment and had no time for lengthy, leisurely deliberation, but his conduct was foolhardy."

Mr Greenwood had been entitled to use reasonable force in order to arrest the men, but



Mr Sharpe (left) and Mr Greenwood after the hearing.

he added: "It is quite plain that it is going beyond reasonable force to fire live shots."

One of the bullets ricocheted off the ground and hit Anthony Sharpe, aged 21, of Mackworth Estate, Derby, in the leg. The bullet passed through his right thigh, severing an artery, and he needed an operation which left him with a 14 inch scar.

Judge Jowitt ruled that Sharpe was two-thirds to blame himself for the injury, because he continued to run away, and awarded him a total of £512 damages against Mr Greenwood. But he will not receive any money because it will all be taken up by his legal costs.

The judge was told that Sharpe had been dealt with earlier by a criminal court which imposed a suspended three month sentence and a £50 fine.

Judge Jowitt criticized the fact that the case had been brought before him. He said: "All the expenses will now be borne by the public purse. Nobody has profited by this litigation at all."

Mr Greenwood failed in a counter-claim for damages for the stress of the incident which he said had made his illness worse.

After the hearing, he said: "I feel quite sick about it. If I saw the same thing happen again, I would help the burglar carry away his loot."

Home air services' losses fall

By Michael Bailly Transport Editor

Losses on Britain's domestic air services are expected to fall to less than £7m this year compared with £36m in 1982, according to an analysis by the Civil Aviation Authority.

The main contributor to improved results is a better performance by British Airways which carries most of the traffic in spite of new competition from British Midland on the Glasgow and Edinburgh routes. In fact, the authority says, British Midland's entry has hardly affected the total loss figure.

Traffic is not expected to grow significantly this year. The improvement comes from increased yield and control over costs.

A simplified domestic fare structure with a narrower gap between normal and discount fares was proposed to the authority yesterday by the Air Transport Users' Committee, the air travellers' watchdog.

Discount fares are confusing to passengers and may be subsidized by normal fares, the committee says. It proposes a new system under which the CAA sets a standard "route fare" which airlines are free to exceed by no more than 12½ per cent and reduce by no more than 40 per cent.

The transport users' committee sees its proposal as a step towards deregulation of domestic air services in Britain

Licence law explained

By Kenneth Gosling

The Home Office confirmed yesterday that you do need a TV licence if you set up an aerial and is capable of receiving programmes relayed by the BBC and the Independent Broadcasting Authority.

A licence is not necessary for a set which is used only for playing video games or for showing video films.

If there is any doubt, the issue may be decided by local magistrates, as happened at Wolverton, in Hereford and Worcester, on Wednesday. In that case, they were satisfied that a local man had not contravened the Wireless Telegraphy Act in that he was watching hired video films because the communal aerial was damaged.

Survey discloses crumbling schools

By Philip Venning

Thousands of children work in schools that have leaking roofs, rotten woodwork, flaking paint and more serious faults, because of repeated cuts in spending on school repairs and decoration, according to a survey carried out by *The Times Educational Supplement*.

The survey, of 160 primary and secondary schools in eight local authorities in England and Wales, found a school where lavatories had not been decorated since 1935, a school kitchen with mouldy walls, roofs leaking water on to electrical fittings, sports cancelled for a year because of dangerous play areas, loose floor tiles and glass-strewn playgrounds.

At Wetherby Junior and Infant School, Leeds, for example, one class had to move out of a room that required 14 receptacles to catch all the roof leaks. The start of term was nearly

Action call on TV 'invasion'

American television programmes brought in by satellite and cable could overwhelm and destroy European public service broadcasters in 10 or 15 years unless they resist the invasion together, a television festival in Capri was told yesterday.

Mr Aubrey Singer, managing director of BBC Television, speaking at the PRIX Italia, said that not only Britain but the whole of western Europe was about to become "an offshore profit area" for American producers.

To combat that he called for the setting up within the EEC of a supra-national audio visual production authority. His proposal was enthusiastically backed by representatives of the Italian broadcasting service, RAI.

Mr Singer said "You can try to impose quotas to ensure that all television services carry a certain proportion of home-grown material, but it does not work because people can fill the necessary hours with quiz shows if they want to".

Most people, however, in spite of the video boom, are dutifully taking out licences in large numbers. The number of colour licences will soon hit the 15 million mark which means that 500,000 more people have deserted black and white in the last year.

The situation has been exacerbated by the high cost of repairs to post-war school buildings that frequently used untried materials or contained design faults that now need attention. Expensive oil-fired boilers have also had to be replaced.

The Department of Education and Science is so worried by the backlog of maintenance that it has undertaken its own survey of 16 local authorities, which is likely to be published soon.

Hongkong briefing for Thatcher

Hongkong (Reuter and AFP) - The Hongkong Governor, Sir Edward Youde, said yesterday he would have talks with Mrs Margaret Thatcher as well as the Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, when he visits London next week.

He will be accompanied by non-civil servant members of the Executive Council - Hongkong's appointed equivalent of the Cabinet.

The London discussions are expected to cover this month's Peking talks on the colony's future and tactics for the next session in Peking in late October.

Sir Percy Cradock, Britain's Ambassador to China who is heading the British negotiations returned to Peking today after five days in Hongkong. He will also go to London next week.

Bernard Levin, page 12

China and America fix dates for military visits

Shanghai (Reuter) - Exchange visits by Chinese and US military personnel will start next year, Mr Casper Weinberger, the US Defense Secretary, said yesterday when he visited a Chinese naval unit in Shanghai.

Mr Weinberger announced in Peking on Wednesday that President Reagan would visit Peking next April, and Mr Zhao Ziyang, the Chinese Prime Minister, would go to Washington in January signalling a significant improvement in Sino-US relations after a long chill.

Speaking at a lunch yesterday at the end of a five-day visit to China, he said: "I am very happy to announce that military-to-military exchanges which we also discussed in Peking will start in 1984."

"I very much hope and believe they will include visits and military exchanges to this

World climate turmoil

Typhoon hits western Japan

Torrential rain and wind from a typhoon carved a trail of destruction across western Japan, killing at least 21 people with at least 17 still missing, police said yesterday.

Nearly 35,000 houses were flooded and more than 10 were destroyed by rainfall. At least 78 people were injured.

Typhoon Forest first hit Okinawa on Sunday and caused widespread damage as it raged across the main southern island Kyushu on Wednesday.

Weather deepens misery

By Hugh Clayton Environment Correspondent

Who had said that in his youth milk yields had been good and fruit had been grown in the village. Now the desert was encroaching, milk yields had dropped and no fruit could be grown.

"The desert is slowly creeping round the whole village," Mr Stringer said. "It is a total collapse of the environment. He said to me: 'I can only believe that the end of the world is nigh.' I think that village chairman speaks with immense perception."

He had recently met the leader of a village in Somalia

million people have lost their homes.

Meanwhile, an angry crowd of 1,000 women forced a town mayor in Brazil's drought-stricken North-East to hand over several tons to food from local stocks.

The women flocked to Jardin de Piranhas, where no rain has fallen for five years, to join a government emergency work programme yesterday, but only 200 places were available.

They marched on an agricultural cooperative store and threatened to sack it unless maize, rice, beans and other basic food were distributed.

In the town of Itabira yesterday, 1,500 people, many of them women, seized food from market stalls.

Supermarkets and other food stores were also looted in Sao Paulo and there were 21 arrests. A total of 40 food stores have been plundered in the last 13 days.

An unemployed man was killed by police while looting another store on Tuesday night. In the past six months, 400 supermarkets, groceries and bakeries have been looted all over Brazil.

Outdated army fights to catch up

From Christopher Wren (New York Times) Peking

On his arrival in Peking in his five-day visit to China Mr Casper Weinberger, the American Defense Secretary, was introduced to an army that was at one time considered the world's best light infantry but has been overtaken by progress.

The People's Liberation Army, with more than 4.2 million men under arms, is largely obsolete, lacking sophisticated anti-tank and anti-aircraft missiles and electronic communications equipment, among other modern necessities.

The army, which was born as a guerrilla band 56 years ago, remains mired in its traditional dual role of defending the country and "serving the people". Its soldiers still routinely repair roads, plant trees, raise pigs and harvest rice. Yet an effort has now begun to transform the army into a more modern fighting machine.

The PLA is no longer in the era of millet plus rifles, a commentary in the newspaper, *People's Daily*, said last May.

On Monday Mr Weinberger told the Chinese that the United States had approved the sale to China of 43 items of high technology, including some that can be applied to air defence early warning systems.

Washington's offer, made two years ago, to consider Chinese requests for United States weapons remains open, although some Western military observers here doubt that the Chinese will present Mr Weinberger with a specific shopping list for two reasons.

The Chinese leadership is thought to be concerned that its purchase of American arms might give the Reagan Administration a pretext to sell more weapons to the rival Nationalist Government on Taiwan. But China is also too poor to re-equip the world's largest army with foreign weapons.

Yu Qili, the army's political commissar, was quoted by the *Peking Review* in August as saying: "We have never pinned our hopes for modernizing our military equipment on imports. Even if we could afford it, it is hard to acquire really advanced weapons of important military value."

The Chinese seem interested in acquiring small quantities of foreign arms that could become prototypes for eventual weapons of Chinese manufacture.

Statements by Chinese military leaders, articles in the official press and analyses by Peking-based diplomats and military attachés indicate that the problem of modernization of the army extends beyond arms alone, to basic tactics and leadership concepts.

The army's arsenal consists of copies of Soviet weapons mostly predating 1960, when the Soviet Union stopped its military and economic assistance to China. Light weapons like the Kalashnikov assault rifle are highly enough regarded to make China an important arms seller to developing countries.

But heavier equipment is badly out of date. The Chinese Air Force uses copies of Soviet combat aircraft that go back to the 1950s of Korea wars. Its more modern Shenyang jet fighters, painstakingly updated from the MIG19 and MIG21, were described by one US analyst as "the world's most advanced obsolete aircraft".

The Chinese T59 tank is copied from the old Soviet T35. A new Chinese model, the T69, has a gun stabilizer for high speed firing, infrared searchlights and laser range-finder, but it remains inferior to the T72 that spearheads Soviet armoured units.

The Chinese army still moves mostly on foot. Of the 300 or more divisions it is estimated to have, only 11 are armoured and three are airborne.

Only £8.30 can save a child's life

Geneva (Reuter) - The price of life for millions of children in the Third World is \$12.50 (£8.30) a year, the World Health Organization (WHO) said yesterday.

In a special report, WHO said 12 million children die each year before their first birthday, roughly 10 per cent of all those born. Another 4 per cent die before they are aged five.

"Simple, curable diarrhoea will take six million young lives," the report said. "Another five million will be claimed by measles, whooping cough, polio, tetanus, diphtheria and tuberculosis. Thousands more will die of pneumonia, malaria or schistosomiasis (bilharzia)."

These are almost all curable diseases, WHO said. "The extra cost of saving those millions of lives is around \$12.50 a head."

In a report summary entitled *The Price of Life*, WHO noted that the 25 poorest countries spend an average of only \$2.60 per person on health. The 85 better-off developing countries set aside an average of \$17 a head, but about three-quarters of that money goes to facilities, reaching a tiny minority of people.

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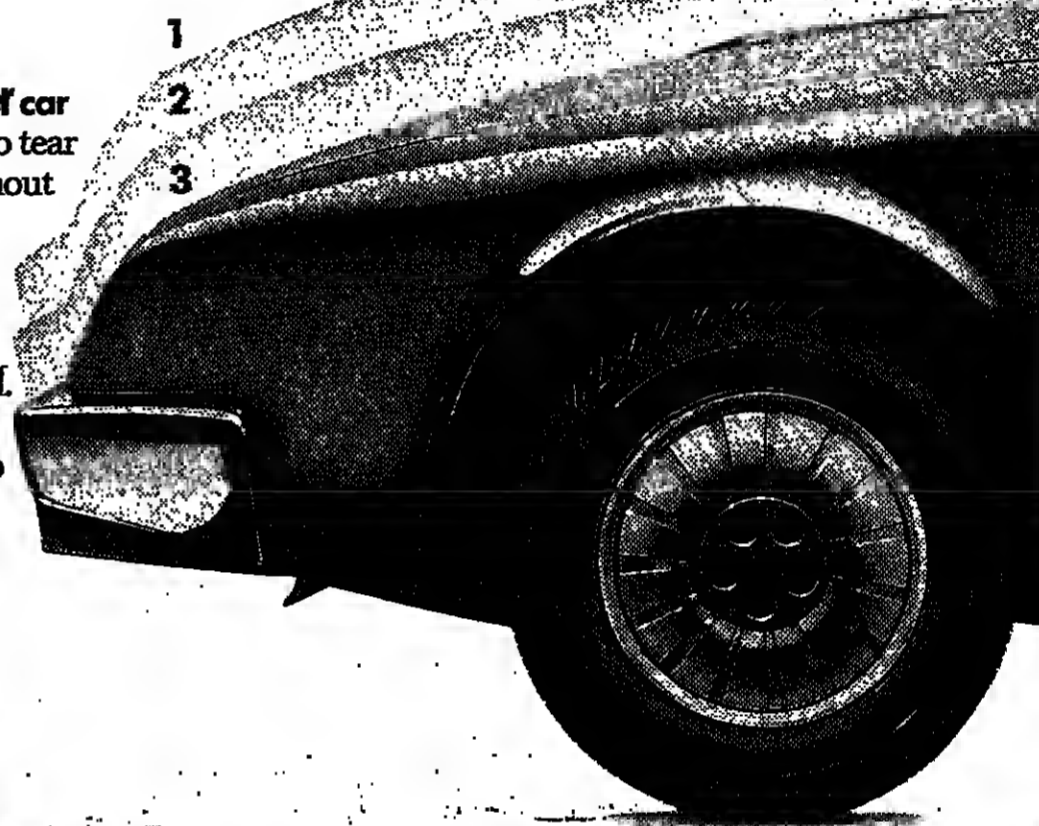
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CX GTi (5-speed)	2347cc Inj.	£9,280
CX 20 Safari Estate	1995cc	£7,450
CX IE Safari Estate (5-speed)	2347cc Inj.	£8,950
CX IE Safari Estate (Auto)	2347cc Inj.	£9,235
CX 20 Familiale Estate	1995cc	£7,714
CX IE Familiale Estate (5-speed)	2347cc Inj.	£9,186
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Philippines opposition to hit US bases if Reagan visit goes ahead

From David Watts
Manila

A white-robed priest invoked parallels with the downfall of the Roman Empire over the tomb of Benigno Aquino yesterday as the anti-Marcos opposition threatened to make American bases in the Philippines untenable.

In the muggy heat of the Manila rainy season Father Antonio Olague, a friend and counsellor to the late politician during his years of detention asked: "When are we going to drive away the tyrant Roman? What is it all leading up to? Will we see the end of Tyranny?"

As if in answer to the rhetorical question, Mr Salvador Laurel, a key figure in the opposition, served warning amid the candles and floral tributes that if President Reagan goes ahead with his visit next month, the opposition will hit the United States at its most sensitive assets in the Philippines: the Air Force base at Clark Field, outside Manila, and the strategic naval base at Subic Bay.

"If Reagan comes, hell say, in effect, Marcos is the one who's going to let us keep the bases. The opposition will say you're endorsing Marcos, we'll oppose the bases and the bases will become untenable if surrounded by a hostile population. Is that what you want? It is either the blessing of an unwanted dictator or incur the



Mr Laurel: "Reagan must make a choice."

of a hostile population that surrounds your bases," Mr Laurel said.

He spoke as members of the Aquino family and opposition supporters met beside the tomb for a Mass to mark the fortieth day since the politician's assassination.

Mr Marcos has indicated already that there is some doubt about his making the planned visit to the Philippines in November, ostensibly because of domestic commitments. Whichever way Mr Reagan decides, he will be of key importance in the stand-off between President Marcos and his opponents.

The clash between the two sides continues despite the President's declaration on television that government business was going on as usual. But

after the violent break-up of demonstrations by troops late last week the opposition is adopting the tactics of guerrilla war.

Protests by the opposition now tend to be more fragmented and less likely to attract government attention on the streets but are more numerous, according to Mr Laurel. There are plans for civil disobedience, but Mr Laurel declined to telegraph our punches in advance.

"We've got to live by our wits, that's all we've got," Mr Laurel said. "He's got all the guns, guns and gold."

Some elements of the opposition, however, now appear to be in favour of a compromise if Mr Marcos can be persuaded to accept their nominees and he is most unlikely to concede any places to unsympathetic jurors.

Meanwhile, Mr Aquino's son, Benigno, has been touring the country building up support for the opposition. He claims opposition is growing nationwide and is far from confined to the middle class as sometimes appears in the capital.

"The main object of being a leader is to get people to follow Marcos, so how can he be a leader?" he asked.

● Editor in hiding: Mr Rommel Corro, the editor of the Manila Times, went into hiding last night as the authorities closed down the newspaper and accused Mr Corro of sedition.

Zimbabwe suspends forces chaplain

From Stephen Taylor
Harare

The Chaplain-General of Zimbabwe's defence force has been suspended pending investigation into what an army spokesman said were pronounced acts of a political nature on the six Air Force officers acquitted last month of sabotage charges.

Lieutenant-Colonel Val Rajah, who conducted a thanksgiving service with the officers' families after the acquittals, was expected to appear before an official board of inquiry. An army spokesman said the defence forces were apolitical and that Lieutenant-Colonel Rajah's suspension should be viewed within that context.

The Chaplain-General provided spiritual support for the officers and their families both before and during the trial at which he was in frequent attendance. During their months in detention the officers told supporters they had found strength through faith.

Six of the seven detained airmen were acquitted in the High Court on August 31 of complicity but were then re-detained.

Witnesses at the thanksgiving service said Lieutenant-Colonel Rajah had started by passing on a message from the airmen in which they expressed gratitude that their plight had attracted international attention and hoped that other detainees might benefit.

France hosts African summit

Habré returns as a friend

From Diana Geddes
Paris

M Hissène Habré, former rebel leader and enemy of France, now President of Chad supported by the French Government, returned yesterday for the first time in more than a decade to Paris, where he spent nine years studying in the 1960s. He was met at the airport by M Charles Hernu, the Defence Minister.

President Habré is due to take part in the Franco-African summit meeting which opens in Vitteil in Lorraine on Monday and is expected to be dominated by the Chad question. More than 20 African heads of state, including some from former British colonies, are planning to attend the two-day conference.

President Mitterrand is to give a dinner for the heads of the French-speaking African countries on Sunday evening, and deliver the inaugural address in Vitteil in Monday morning.

In his speech to the General Assembly on Wednesday, he emphasized France's efforts to achieve a cease-fire in Chad, preferably through the mediation of the Organization of African Unity, with the aim of reaching a negotiated settlement "whose prime object will be to guarantee the integrity of Chad and to obtain the withdrawal of foreign forces."

Among those attending the Vitteil summit will be President Denis Sassou Nguesso of Congo who flew to Libya from Paris at the end of last week, after three days exchanges with French officials, for talks with Colonel Gaddafi, the Libyan leader, on



Changing fortunes: Mr Habré, France's former foe, speaking on his arrival, flanked by M Hernu

with all the interested foreign parties."

France has about 3,000 troops in Chad, but has not so far fired a single shot.

It sent out its Jaguar fighter-bomber Brizcraft as a warning when there was a clash between Chad Government forces and the Libyan-backed rebels near the oasis town of Oum Chalouba at the beginning of September. There has been virtually no fighting in Chad since then.

Britain explains its EEC policy

From Ian Murray
Brussels

The Foreign Office undertook a rare and significant public relations exercise yesterday to claim that Britain was badly understood inside the EEC.

Sir Michael Butler, the British representative with the Communities, summoned journalists covering the EEC to complain that many of them had failed to grasp what Britain's position was.

The misunderstanding was on two levels. The first was that Britain, contrary to what has been written about it, was an extremely Community-minded member of the EEC, interested in far more than boundary reform.

The second was that Britain had absolutely no intention of changing its position in the difficult negotiations for radical reform of Community financing. It had not been convinced by any of the arguments put forward by other member states so far.

Sir Michael, who as a senior diplomat "prefers to work anonymously in the background, felt it necessary to go on record personally to lecture the Brussels press corps about its misconceptions.

Britain, he emphasized, was a committed member of the EEC and believed that it could derive important economic and political advantage from membership. It has put forward a comprehensive paper on the kind of other policies it wanted to see the Community undertake.

That said, he systematically demolished the suggestion put forward by Denmark of a five-year special "convergence fund" to help Britain. "It offered," he said, "too little and too short a time."

Britain, he emphasized, was not prepared to accept a short-term deal. This would mean only that Community business would get bogged down every time the item appeared on the agenda, as it would have to if there were no proper reform.

He also complained that Britain had been misrepresented as wanting to make drastic cuts in the money spent on the common agricultural policy. The British aim, he said, was to make sure that agricultural spending did not grow faster than the community's own resources.

If the Community was to be allowed a larger budget, there had to be guarantees that the extra money would not be "gobbled up" on agricultural spending.

A new set of aids to help the EEC's poorer farmers was proposed yesterday by Paul Dalsager, the Commissioner in charge of agriculture. The cost would be up to £4,500m over the next five years and would provide help to up to 20 times more farmers than do the present schemes.

Mr Dalsager said aid would not be readily available in farmers producing commodities in surplus, such as milk.

Surprise NZ win in bridge

From a Correspondent
Stockholm

In the final round of the first stage of the Bermuda Bowl bridge championship the US second team sustained their first defeat at the hands of fast-improving New Zealand. Pakistan took advantage of the occasion to pick up ground on the leaders and to maintain the gap between themselves and Sweden, who are in third place.

Results: Round 7: CAC bt Brazil 18-12, New Zealand bt US-2 17-13, Pakistan bt Italy 18-12, Sweden bt Indonesia 18-12.

Italy lost four of their seven matches in the first stage and though they still remain in contention for the second qualifying place on the basis of their past achievements, two more poor results might put them out of the race.

Standings after Round 7: US-2 151, Pakistan 130, Sweden 105.5, New Zealand 104, Italy 97, Brazil 88, CAC 78, Indonesia 76.

The US second team seem certain to qualify, in which case they will meet the US first team in the semi-final, while the second semi-final will oppose other qualifying teams from the first stage.

Whoever they may be, France should be too strong for them and France therefore are at present the team with the strongest chance of a place in the final.

Russia is toughest on writers, report says

Caracas (Reuter) - At least 500 writers and journalists throughout the world have been kidnapped, detained or subjected to criminal proceedings for their political beliefs in recent years, according to a report released this week.

The Writers in Prison Committee of PEN International, a 62-year-old organization celebrating its forty-sixth congress here, said in the report that the Soviet Union was the worst offender, with 103 writers subjected to harassment.

Argentina is close behind with 99. The committee said Latin America as a whole has the worst record of the regions, with 178 writers in trouble.

While there have been tentative moves towards democracy in some countries, such as Argentina and Brazil, many writers there are repressed and

the situation in Central America has deteriorated, the committee said.

It estimates that 78 writers have disappeared in Latin America and are presumed dead, including 61 in Argentina.

Other Latin American offenders named were Cuba, Chile and Uruguay, while in Central America recent conflicts have led to the disappearance of 10 writers in El Salvador and Guatemala.

The committee said Russia still has the largest number of writers and journalists in jail, labour camps and psychiatric hospitals. Since the last PEN report in 1979 there have been many detentions.

In spite of the lifting of martial law in Poland, the situation there remains tense and seven writers are still held without trial.

Rio's rebel Indian MP condemned

From Patrick Knight
São Paulo

Eleven ministers have called for Congress to discipline Senator Mario Juruma, Brazil's first and only Indian deputy, elected from Rio de Janeiro.

In a speech on Monday the outspoken Senator Juruma said all ministers, the armed forces and the President were corrupt. He also used the word "thieves".

Ministers have called on the President of Congress to punish Senator Juruma by expulsion for behaviour incompatible with the dignity of Parliament, a procedure which would require a majority of votes in favour. Senator Juruma has been vociferous in raising questions of Indians' rights in Congress and has also pressed for Brazil's Indian Foundation, now headed by a colonel, to be administered by Indians.

He wants action to be taken where settlers are encroaching on Indian reservations.

Debt-ridden Argentina faces strike

From Andrew Thompson
Buenos Aires

Argentina's two labour confederations have fixed their planned 24-hour general strike for next Tuesday, as concern grows over a new crisis in the country's foreign debt renegotiations.

"Our patience has run out and so have our deadlines," said Senator Saul Ubaldini, the leader of one of the two confederations, which are expected to merge soon. The strike is a result of the Government's refusal to grant new wage increases. It will be held 26 days before the general election.

Meanwhile, concern is growing at the implications of a court order served on the Government which "freezes" the renegotiation of public sector company foreign debt with the foreign banks.

At stake is the renegotiation of about £5 billion of the country's foreign debt.

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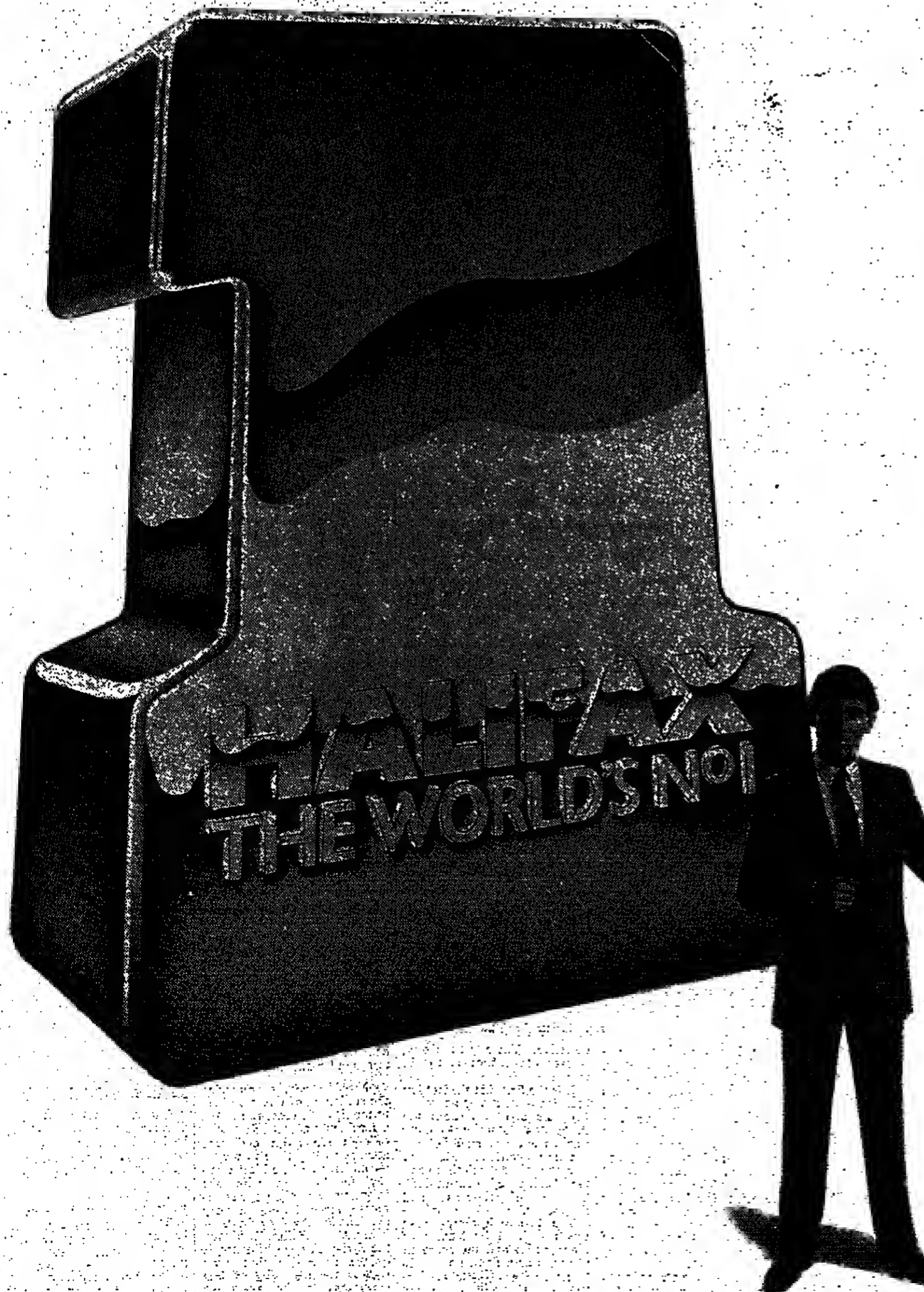
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101

Arms race is slowing as superpowers begin to feel the pinch

By Henry Stanhope
Diplomatic Correspondent

The world's military stockpiles are about to start shrinking because countries can no longer afford to pay the price, according to the authoritative International Institute for Strategic Studies today.

It dismisses the popular impression of a widespread arms race in *The Military Balance 1983-4*, despite a 10 per cent rise in global spending on arms to \$800 billion (£530 billion).

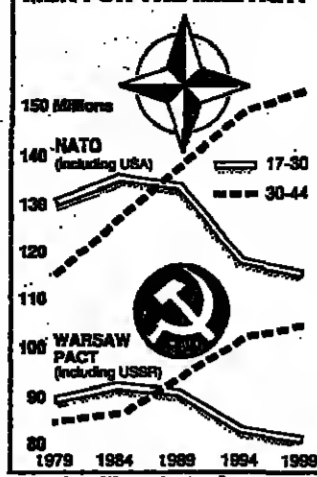
Even the superpowers are now feeling the pinch as they struggle to raise the quality, not the quantity, of their weapons, and all countries face considerable difficulties over the next 10 to 15 years, it says.

Navies look likely to be worst affected and a number of ageing fleets are bound to grow smaller unless many of their warships are soon replaced or modernised.

In the Warsaw Pact some 499 naval vessels out of a total of 1,723, or 28.9 per cent, are now more than 20 years old - and thus classified by the institute as over-age; while in Nato as many as 447 out of 1,375 hulls or 32.6 per cent fall into the same category. In the Royal Navy the number of "over-age" hulls is as high as 61 out of 156 - or 39 per cent.

Manpower is another big problem facing the developed world, with the number of those aged between 17 and 30 beginning to fall from next year until the end of the century. 10

MEN FOR THE MILITARY



Nato will go down from about 134 million to around 110 million and in the Warsaw Pact from above 90 million to around 80 million.

In West Germany, one of the worst affected countries, the figures will slump from about 6.5 million to 4.2 million by 1999, while in Britain the downward trend will begin about the end of the decade and will result in a fall from around 5.8 million to 4.8 million in 1990's.

About 30 per cent of Soviet forces will then be drawn from their central Asian and Muslim peoples, while elsewhere armed forces may be forced to make more use of women in technical jobs.

Another likely result is that troops will start to look older as governments widen the search for available young men, while

Nato reserve forces will draw more heavily upon the allies in southern Europe, which should be less seriously affected.

The institute also points out that this will happen at the very time when the growing complexity of modern weapons is placing an ever greater demand upon intelligence and education, which will make it difficult for forces to lower their standards in recruiting.

Mr Robert O'Neill, the institute's director, referred at a press conference to reports of two new squadrons of Russian SS20 missiles being deployed recently, raising the total of missile launchers to 378, comprising 28 squadrons facing Western Europe and 14 in the Far East. Replacement of the single-warhead SS4 and SS5 missiles by the triple-headed SS20 now seemed to be almost complete.

Defence spending in Nato and the Warsaw Pact to general seems however to have remained static during the last five years, according to the report. Only when the superpower programmes are added does it jump to a rise of between 11 and 12 per cent in the West and between 4 and 6 per cent among countries in the Pact.

"These figures do not suggest a mad race out of control but a steady advance by countries labouring under difficulties," Mr O'Neill commented.

The Military Balance 1983-4, International Institute for Strategic Studies, 25 Tavistock St, London WC2E 7NQ (£7.25)

Anxieties over Bush comments eased

From Nicholas Ashford and Mohsin Ali, Washington

Vice-President George Bush's remarks that the British and French missiles might ultimately have to be discussed do not signal any change in the US position at the current Geneva arms control negotiations.

His remarks to reporters at a lunch on Wednesday here on Wednesday were misinterpreted and caused a flurry of speculation. This was because some reporters thought he was speaking about the US-Soviet intermediate-range nuclear forces (INF) reduction talks in Geneva.

The overlooked fact that Mr Bush had made clear and reiterated US opposition to the inclusion of British and French missiles in the INF talks.

Mr Larry Speakes, the White House spokesman, said yesterday "British and French missiles will not be a part of our talks with the Soviets... The policy is clear." He emphasized that the Geneva arms control talks were being held on a bilateral basis between the US and the Soviet Union and "that's the way they stand."

Noting that Britain and France had said they might take "appropriate action" if the INF talks and the separate strategic arms reduction (Start) negotiations succeeded in achieving big reductions in the two superpowers' nuclear arsenals, the spokesman pointed out: "That's exactly what the Vice-President said."

During his meeting with reporters, Vice-President Bush said "somewhere along the line" the 162 British and French missiles would have to be

considered if the hopes for arms reductions were to be realized. He did not say how this problem should be handled, but he emphasized: "We can't negotiate for the British and French and we don't intend to dictate to them."

Mr Bush added that the US did not intend to negotiate the British and French missile forces away to the Geneva INF talks.

Both Mr Speakes and a spokeswoman for Mr Bush suggested that some reporters had erred in interpreting the Vice-President's comments. "If there was a misunderstanding on the part of reporters, I'm sorry," Mr Speakes said.

The US continues to back strongly the British and French argument that their weapons are strategic and not intermediate-range missiles. Moreover, France is not in Nato's integrated military structure.

Soviet President Yuri Andropov has been demanding that the 162 British and French missiles be counted in the Geneva INF negotiations. This has been rejected by Britain, France, the United States and the Atlantic alliance.

Mrs Margaret Thatcher said on US television yesterday that the question of the British and French missiles was "totally irrelevant" to the INF negotiations. She emphasized that the British Polaris fleet was a last-resort deterrent.

The Prime Minister noted that Britain's nuclear deterrent represented only 2½ per cent of the Soviet Union's strategic missile forces.

Howe sets terms for missile cuts

From Zoriana Pysariwsky
New York

The British Government has left open the possibility of negotiating reductions in its medium-range missile systems, but only after Soviet and American strategic arsenals were substantially reduced.

In an address to the UN General Assembly, Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, repeated that the British systems have no place in the intermediate nuclear forces negotiations in Geneva, which are dealing with tactical weaponry, did not rule out future discussions within a strategic context.

"We have never said over," he said. Should the threat be reduced and if no significant changes had occurred in Soviet defensive capabilities, "Britain would want to review her position and to consider how best she could contribute to arms control," he added.

There could be no reason, in equity or logic, why the British and French systems should be included in the INF talks which have neither British nor French participation, Sir Geoffrey said.

He suggested that the Soviet attempt to bring them into the equation might perhaps be dismissed as a smokescreen designed to hide, what he hoped, was only a temporary unwillingness to negotiate seriously. The Soviet demand would be tantamount to Britain's unilateral strategic disarmament.

In a statement to the Assembly on Wednesday, President Mitterand also suggested the time might come for all five nuclear powers to discuss limitation of their strategic systems.

● Falklands rebuff: Referring to the Falklands issue, Sir Geoffrey told the General Assembly that Britain would continue to seek a more normal relationship with Argentina and a reduction of tension in the South Atlantic. But the Argentine Government had spurned overtures and had persisted in belligerent statements.

Falklands war 'hurt US cause'

From Ian Murray
Brussels

Relations between the United States and Latin American countries were strained by the Falklands crisis more severely than was ever imagined, Mr Luigi Einaudi, the director for policy planning and coordination in Latin America at the United States Department, said in Brussels yesterday.

The conflict had undermined American relationships, he said, and had hurt the predisposition of Latin American countries to cooperate and to value the inter-American system.

Latin American countries had assumed, that Britain would have shown a much higher degree of restraint.

American support for Britain had produced a varied response. "It reduced contacts in some cases and we have not had the kind of conversations which we might have been expected."

Mr Einaudi was at Nato for a regular meeting of the alliance's Latin American specialists.



Airport reopens: A Shia gunman watches as American helicopters take off from Beirut airport, which reopened to civilian traffic yesterday after a month's closure caused by the fighting in nearby areas.

Civilians die as Sind erupts into violence on polling day

Test for Zia regime

From Michael Hamlyn, Karachi

The Sind local elections exploded into violence yesterday. Perhaps as many as 17 civilians and one soldier died in a bitter clash at Sakrand, near Nawabshah, according to police reports. The district magistrate later reported that only seven civilians and one soldier had died in the incident.

Demonstrators blocked the national highway which runs north along the banks of the Indus River, after a call by the opposition parties to abstract all wheeled traffic in the troubled province on election day.

Troops were called to clear the road and one soldier died when they were fired on. Another was seriously injured, the district magistrate said.

The mob dispersed, but later reassembled. The Army opened fire, killing 17. Police said another 49 were wounded. The magistrate said 45 were taken to hospital. Opposition sources put casualty figures much higher. They say 57 were killed and 150 wounded.

The incident took place outside the voting area but was an obvious ill omen for the second stage of the Sind local elections on Sunday. The military regime announced that the disturbed part of the province would vote separately to enable the authorities to concentrate their resources.

The regime no doubt also hopes to isolate the disturbances there and has already issued "advice" to local newspapers preventing them from reporting much of what will happen.

In the area which was encouraged to vote yesterday, there were a number of violent incidents, but not much more than often mars democratic contests all over the subcontinent.

The worst of these was in Karachi, a suburb of the state capital which was the scene of Sunni-Shia rioting in January

and February. What began as a stone-throwing incident by supporters of rival candidates ended with gunfire exchanged and 14 people taken to hospital. The security forces intervened only with tear gas.

Local people said the clash began to develop into a new religious riot with Sunnis and Shias once more at each other's throats. Some stabbings were reported from Sukkur and stones were thrown and tyres burnt in the street in Lyari, an area of Karachi with a history of hostility to the regime.

Apart from these incidents the polls went off reasonably

well, and it began to look like General Zia ul-Haq was winning his showdown with the politicians agitating against his six-year martial law regime.

A tour of polling stations in Karachi showed that shortly before the booths closed there was a turnout of between 25 and 35 per cent.

It might not show overwhelming participation by the populace but compares quite reasonably with what would be expected in a Western election - and this in spite of a call for a total boycott by the Movement for the Restoration of Democracy, the group of outlawed political parties which this week grew to nine.

The MRD also called for a general strike during the election, but was smartly out-maneuvred by the generals who instantly proclaimed election day a holiday. As a result, not much traffic moved on the streets and many of the shops and bazaars were shuttered in Karachi and other centres.

White mediator speared to death in tribal fight

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

A white South African who spent most of his life fighting for justice for rural blacks was caught in an ambush and shot and speared to death in the KwaZulu tribal homeland on Wednesday. Five tribal elders travelling with him were also reported killed.

Mr Neil Alcock in his mid-sixties, was apparently attempting to mediate in tribal faction fighting. His van was ambushed on a road between a ferry over the Tugela river and the town of Weenen. His body was found lying outside riddled with bullets and assegai wounds.

Mr Alcock and his wife, Creina, who survives him, ran an agricultural project in the same area, living in a grass hut and earning the same wages as their black associates. He was known as a peace-maker in tribal disputes and a fierce opponent of the forced resettlement of blacks.

Much tribal faction fighting

has its roots in the overcrowding and competition for scarce grazing land caused by resentment, which arises from the Government's policy of apartheid as insistence on moving blacks out of "white" areas into tribal "homelands".

Twenty-eight people have been killed this month in faction fighting in eastern Pondoland, according to Colonel Stanford Fumani, the Assistant Commissioner of Police in the Transkei homeland. The fighting was caused by farmers from one area stealing cattle from farmers in another.

● Miners killed: Six miners were killed in a collapsed shaft on Tuesday, just over two weeks after South Africa's worst mining accident in two decades claimed 67 lives (AP reports).

A spokesman for S. A. Manganeese Amcor Ltd, known as "Sammacor", said six men died and three were rescued at the Grass Valley chrome mine,

Libyans fly supplies to Syria for Druze

From Robert Fisk
Damascus

Large quantities of Libyan arms and ammunition destined for the Druze militias in the Chouf mountains of Lebanon were believed to be arriving at military airfields round Damascus yesterday, as Libya's top military chief held talks in the Syrian capital with Mr Walid Jumblatt, the Druze leader, and with other Lebanese opposition politicians.

All day Soviet-built transport aircraft could be seen making their final approach to an airport outside the capital, the Il'yushin jets bearing Libyan colours on their tailfins as they flew low over the west of the city.

Brigadier Abu Bakr Younis Jaber, the Commander-in-Chief of the Libyan armed forces, spent some hours during the day closeted at the Sheraton Hotel with Mr Jumblatt and the head of the Lebanese Communist Party, both of whose militias have been fighting the Lebanese Government Army in the Chouf.

Up to half the weapons used by the Druze in the mountains have come from Libya, although yesterday's discussions centred on further Libyan funding for the militias.

Brigadier Younis also held meetings with President Assad of Syria, and with General Mustafa Tlass, the Syrian Defence Minister. "We are keeping contact with Damascus," one of the Brigadier's officers told *The Times* yesterday. "We shall continue to do this - that is all I can say."

In fact, Mr Jumblatt is reported to have told the Libyans that the past three weeks of fighting has left the Druze short of ammunition, and that his Progressive Socialist Party militia will be desperately short of arms supplies if the current ceasefire in Lebanon should break down.

Brigadier Younis also discussed with President Assad the offer by Colonel Gaddafi, the Libyan leader, to place the 300 regular Libyan troops in the Bekaa Valley under Syrian command. The Syrian leader is understood to have politely turned down the offer.

Despite its political success in arranging a reconciliation conference in Lebanon that will include numerous Lebanese opposition leaders, Syria is showing remarkable sensitivity towards foreign criticism - even foreign journalistic coverage - of events in Lebanon. The Syrian censors have taken exception to numerous articles in European newspapers and magazines over the past two weeks, and have torn reports on Lebanon from French and British newspapers.

The *Times* coverage of Lebanon has fallen in particular. Mr Jari had odour here: the Syrian authorities scarcely ever allow the paper to go on sale and when they do, news reports on Lebanon have usually been cut out. By contrast, *The Daily Telegraph* appears on sale almost every day with its pages untouched.

● New York: Syria is opposing the stationing of UN observers to monitor the cease-fire in the Chouf mountains in what officials see as a deliberate attempt to buy time to review its military and political strategy in Lebanon with the intention of breaking the agreement reached on Sunday (Zoriana Pysariwsky writes).

Mr Abdel Hakim Khaddam, the Syrian Foreign Minister, is quoted as saying that Syria regards the neutrality of UN observers to be open to question and cannot foresee their deployment in the Chouf.

Amnesty for 13,000 prisoners in Sudan

Khartoum (Reuter) - President Nimeiry has freed all 13,000 inmates of Sudan's prisons in his campaign to restore strict observance of Islamic law, which will be used in future to deal with all crimes.

Those awaiting execution could avoid the death sentence if they paid compensation to the families of those they had killed, he said in a ceremony at Khartoum jail.

Islamic law stipulates amputation of the left hand for those convicted of theft and stoning to death for adulterers. Those who kill must be killed in the same manner. The punishment for minor offences is whipping.

Minister faces murder charge

Nairobi - Kenya's Minister of Planning and Economic Development, Dr Zeyuni Onyonya, appeared in court in Kisumu, charged with murdering a man who died after a shooting incident in the final stage of the election campaign last weekend (Charles Harrison writes).

Five Kenyans were wounded when Dr Onyonya's bodyguard opened fire during a clash between rival campaigners.

Airmen held by Kurds

The pilot and navigator of a Turkish military aircraft which crashed in northern Iraq on September 14 are reported to have been captured by Kurdish guerrillas fighting the Iraqi Government (Hazhir Teimourian writes).

The Kurdistan Democratic Party of Iraq, led by Mr Massud Barzani, has announced that the aircraft was hit by its anti-aircraft batteries as it overflew Kurdish military positions.

Naval broadside

Stockholm - The Swedish Government was accused yesterday of censoring criticism of its defence policies by a group of naval officers in *Marin Nytt*, the Navy newspaper. Sweden is anxious to ally Nato fears about its ability to defend itself.

Wife's appeal

Mrs Masureen Smith, the British woman sentenced to death last year for her husband's murder, yesterday argued before the appeal court in Bloemfontein yesterday that the trial judge had wrongly dismissed evidence of extenuating circumstances. The death sentence is only mandatory in South Africa for murder here no extenuation is present. The appeal court reserved its judgment.

Kuril build-up

Tokyo (AP) - At least 10 Soviet Mig 23 jet fighters flew on Sunday to an airbase on the Soviet-held island of Etorofu in the Kuril chain east of Japan's Hokkaido island, the Japanese Defence Agency said.

Managua claim

Peñas Blancas (AFP) - Nicaragua claims that fighting guerrillas suffered 15 dead and wounded during an assault on this border post on Wednesday. The Arde rebels, based in Costa Rica, say 19 Sandinista soldiers were killed, but Managua says it lost only three.

Envoy recalled

Madrid - Señor Mariano Baselga, Spain's Ambassador to Nicaragua, is to be recalled, at a time when Spanish-Nicaraguan relations are strained. The areas in Costa Rica of the member of ETA, the Basque separatist organization, who had been living in Nicaragua, sparked off speculation in the Spanish press that ETA might be collaborating with the Sandinista Government.

Winner robbed

Philadelphia (AP) - Burglars ransacked the home of Mr Raymond Lenox, aged 39, while he was at a party given by friends to celebrate his winning \$4.4m (£2.9m) in the Pennsylvania state lottery last week. They stole appliances, silverware and \$500 in cash.

Bank shooting

Absdorf (Reuter) - West German Police wounded five bank robbers and a hostage after an attempt to rob a bank at Asdorf, near Aachen.

Lawyer killed

Bogota (Reuter) - A second lawyer was shot dead in Medellin yesterday a few hours after the murder of a colleague. Señor Domingo Cuello had been investigating the death of a left-wing guerrilla killed by police.

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SPECTRUM

When ITN launched Channel 4 News as the flagship for news and current affairs on the channel, the intention was to explain events rather than just to report them. But that ideal foundered in a lack of funds and confidence. The programme's first editor tells why heads - including his own - began to roll

How the Channel 4 news broke

By Derrik Mercer

Why do people watch TV news? Because, two Opinion Research Centre samples told ITN last December, it is concise, personal, unbiased, easy to digest and simplified in the degree that the viewer is told enough of what is going on without having to think too much. This was not an encouraging message for Channel 4 News, an hour-long programme committed to covering news in greater depth.

A few weeks before the ORC reports, ITN had launched Channel 4 News as the flagship of the new channel's news and current affairs output. Jeremy Isaacs, Channel 4's chief executive, told a press conference that ITN had undertaken one of his channel's most difficult challenges but one that he had no doubt would succeed. As the programme's editor I shared the public optimism but when asked about resources said: "We will need to be more successful more quickly than new news programmes have generally been in order to get more resources. Otherwise we'll be in trouble come the summer."

By the end of that summer I had left Channel 4, as had two of the programme's three producers, its senior director and one of its two foreign affairs specialists. With the

majority of the remaining on-screen staff searching outside ITN for jobs, Channel 4's flagship is looking decidedly leaky.

As with the more public blood-letting at TV-am, it is the fate of the much-vaunted "mission to explain" that lifts the internal melodrama into something of public consequence.

It must have seemed so easy in the mid-1970s when Peter Jay and John Birt, now programme controller at London Weekend Television, coined the phrase that came to haunt Jay at TV-am. There, they declared, a "bias against understanding" in existing television news coverage. Stripped of pretensions, this meant that the presentation contained too much incident and too little explanation.

Channel 4 News was established to remedy this inadequacy, as indeed was the BBC's *Newsnight* two years earlier. Unlike *Newsnight*, though, the programme proposed by Channel 4 would have a prime early-evening slot which would require a more substantial news summary than would be necessary in a slot following the BBC and ITN news. There were other differences, too. Channel 4 News had specific contractual commitments to cover economic news, science and



Mercer outside Channel 4's Charlotte Street headquarters: how long can the "mission to explain" survive?

the arts. And there would be regular items from overseas broadcasters.

The most profound difference between the two programmes, however, centred upon the question raised at the opening press conference - resources. Channel 4 News had greater obligations yet began life with barely a third of the *Newsnight* staff. This stark fact was pointed out to David Nicholas, ITN's editor and chief executive, the day before ITN submitted its bid for the contract to Isaacs. ITN's failure to obtain a realistic budget, Nicholas later conceded, sowed the seeds for the subsequent problems.

But ITN, smarting from the shock of losing ITV's breakfast franchise to Jay's consortium, was desperate for the Channel 4 contract. It was the only foreseeable route for expansion. Thus costs were kept ludicrously low in the budget drawn up by Paul McKee, now ITN's deputy chief executive, built around the hope that everyone would work a five-day week, a practice the union had resisted successfully elsewhere for 25 years.

ITN would pitch for the contract and then proceed in the fashion it knew best: it would fly by the seat of its

pants, just as it had so often against the better-staffed BBC. The approach betrayed a lack of awareness of any difference between reacting to the day's events - at which ITN is justly renowned - and the more analytical and anticipatory requirements of Channel 4's brainchild. But if the two organizations were scarcely no the same journalistic wavelenght, ITN's financial offer trumped the rival bid from LWT's *Weekend World* team.

Channel 4's parsimony reflected more than a compromise between the radical programme makers and the ITV moneymen who largely comprised its sometimes uneasy board. The low budget was also a price exacted by the former, who had fought ITN's involvement in principle. How could ITN, they argued, produce a programme to remedy its own inadequacies? Was it not too rooted in what Alastair Burnet once called the "if it moves, film it" school of journalism?

Such philosophical doubts were not invalid although they maligned able individuals such as Trevor McDonald who, like Burnet, were only too aware of the constraints imposed by one minute 15 second reports on *News at Ten*. My "quality" newspaper background - latterly as managing editor

(news) at *The Sunday Times* - thus represented a symbolic break from ITN's traditional news values.

Outsiders focussed upon the programme's timing - seven to eight o'clock in the evening, when even Robin Day had once (with *Newsday*) failed to entice many viewers to BBC2 news - rather doubting its ability to fulfill a journalistic need. But our problem came in trying to rise to the challenge of becoming a "quality newspaper of the air" with staffing levels which would have embarrassed a regional magazine.

ITN had misunderstood not only the nature of the journalism involved but also the technical problems of producing, say, eight-minute reports compared to one or two-minute "packages". The four reporters had no researchers to add depth, no film producers to add gloss.

It is true, of course, that we were to have access to virtually everything ITN produced for its other programmes, but we couldn't become too dependent upon such material without sacrificing our own individuality. And why should people watch us if it was not to see stories they could not see elsewhere?

I decided to ignore the budget. If we succeeded, we would get the extra money. If we failed, I'd have other problems. No journalist has yet won an award for good accounting, David Nicholas said approvingly.

And so, once the chimera of a five-day week had been overcome, I managed to increase the 21 journalists allowed for in the original budget (excluding assistants and secretaries) to about 30 - still fewer than even a weekly programme such as *Panorama* but just enough to get under way.

Why, then, didn't we set the world alight? For a while it appeared as though we might. David Nicholas reported to the ITN board in November that "Channel 4 News has assumed a more assured character than any other newly-established ITN programme had acquired at a comparable stage". Isaacs sent a similarly laudatory message.

We knew too well that there were problems: some of the on-screen staff were visibly lacking in confidence, the deskless set wasn't working, studio production standards were too prone to error and our ability to analyze the main stories lacked consistency. But any hope of piecemeal reform was shattered by ratings which represented a more serious blow to corporate self-confidence than Jeremy Isaacs' envious *sang-froid* ever betrayed.

What, though, constitutes success

for a serious news programme up against programmes such as *Coronation Street* and *This Is Your Life*? Our ratings were never as bad as reported, only once in the first six months averaging over a week the infamous "zero rating" of fewer than 250,000 viewers. There were also regional and statistical oddities that suggested the audience was being underestimated. Nevertheless 311,000 for December and 457,000 in February was clearly not good enough; we needed at least the 650,000 which we hit fitfully and unpredictably.

A crucial debate began: Paul McKee argued we should change the concept of the programme to entice viewers away from rival programmes; I maintained we should improve the existing concept and cultivate a new audience that did not watch television in the time slot. It was an argument which I won in January but lost in June.

Revamp number one brought in desks, new music and an opening news summary. There were also regular slots for science, arts and foreign news. The panic over ratings also meant that my earlier plea for ITN reporters to serve attachments with Channel 4 News was now backed by Don Horobin, ITN's deputy editor. Audiences rose to around half a million and the new look was well received by critics. But as the evenings lengthened, audiences dwindled and the arguments began over revamp number two.

This time McKee was supported by Peter Sissons, the programme's main presenter, who had swung from being its greatest champion to its fiercest critic. He had lost confidence in two of the three producers, and when I rejected his request to work only with the other producer he lost confidence in me. Now, he declared, the only way to save the programme was to make it newsworthy and go downmarket. He also thought I should be replaced by a television "professional".

Hour-long news was very much Jeremy Isaacs' baby and he had been frustrated by our apparent inability to match the standards he had once set at *This Week*. He had been unhappy over ITN's refusal to maintain a full-time studio director after February's "cosmetic" revamp and critical of the producers for failing to provide "textural variety" between items. Maybe, he asked Nicholas, Sissons was right and it was the editor's fault?

Meanwhile, I was unhappy about new budget proposals to reduce the camera crews available to us. This jeopardized not only the coverage, which had won critical praise, but the originality, which alone offered me sufficient satisfaction to offset the superficiality of most TV news reporting. Trapped in such a cross-fire, it seemed time for a parting of the ways - and I declined Nicholas's offer to switch to another post within ITN.

Hindsight makes wise men of us all, but my balance sheet still has more pluses than minuses. We widened the news to embrace many areas otherwise ignored and introduced some conspicuous new talent. The editorial team - mostly prospered, but I regret ITN's refusal to let me approach Anna Ford after the TV-am debacle. On the debit side, I overestimated the time required by Sarah Hogg to adapt her skills to television. The acute pressure on people meant that good ideas were sometimes done skimpily.

The "mission to explain" abandoned in favour of a rat by TV-am, survives - just - at ITN. More money is belatedly being spent and the channel's greater popularity should rub off on the news. But will this, and the traditional autumn increase in viewers, be sufficient to stave off revamp number three? A shorter length, new time or a lurch downmarket could boost ratings but then we would never know whether a "quality newspaper of the air" can be either feasible or popular. Having been denied adequate resources and promotion, is *Channel 4 News* also to be denied the time that, a year ago, we all knew would be necessary?

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moreover... Miles Kington

Chuckoffski? Ha!

A male ballet dancer was sacked from the Festival Ballet, according to a recent industrial tribunal case, because "he lacked the necessary masculinity and, moreover, lacked the strength and vigour to lift ballerinas and the like".

It is the last three words which will puzzle those not familiar with ballet. We know that male dancers have to lift ballerinas and occasionally throw them back and forth like beach balls, but what is "the like" that they also have to lift? Luckily, I have recently been reading the memoirs of Dmitri Svetlanovskiy, the legendary Russian dancer who came to the West in 1918 and later represented the US in the 1924 Olympics as a weightlifter. This extract may help to explain some of the mysteries of male dancing.

"My father owned a large estate in Russia, so large that when the sun rose at one end, it was still pitch black at the other. He spent all his time in Moscow playing cards with Chekhov, so from an early age I found myself in charge of the estate, though all I ever wanted to do was dance. I used to spend my days deep in the forest, helping the serfs lift tree trunks and practising my dancing. This, I think, was what gave me my unusual strength as a ballet dancer; you do not meet many who can lift a tree, or indeed lift a serf who has been laughing at your dancing and dash him against a tree.

"At my first audition in St Petersburg, the governors of the ballet felt that my physique was too mainly in be a good dancer. Technique was needed for lifting, not strength, they told me. Bring me four ballerinas, I told them proudly. They did so, and I lifted all four of them with great ease. They still expressed doubt, but when I laughingly lifted the governors by a nearby tree to hurl them against, they told me I had passed the audition.

"Although my great strength made me popular with the others, they also liked to play practical jokes on me. There was no scene in a ballet where I had to receive the ballerina from behind, over my head, and I will remember that one evening she seemed much heavier than usual. The reason was that those rascals had placed in position behind me an entire army cannon. How surprised they were to see me hold it above my head, although with an effort! Not so surprised, however, as the other male dancer to whom I was supposed to throw the ballerina. I shall never forget the look on his face as the cannon descended on him. Poor Yuri. He was not equipped to lift cannons and the like.

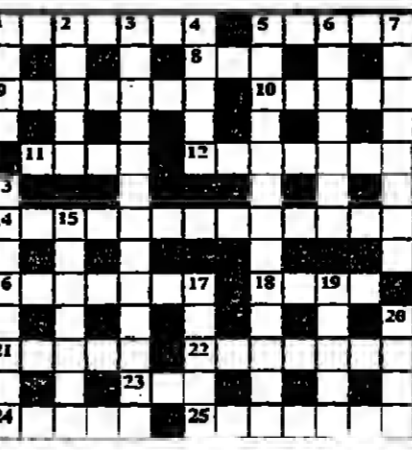
"As you can imagine, my great virility and masculinity made me something of a favourite with the girls, who would often feel my muscles and the like when I was out looking. However, I was too

devoted to my art to bother with female company much. Truth to tell, I preferred male company no the whole, and often befriended a male dancer who was lacking in the virility necessary to lift packing-crates, horses and the like, feeling sorry for him.

"Then came my move to Paris, where I met with Diaghilev. He was planning a new ballet based on the machine age and was very excited at the idea of having a T-model Ford on stage. What he could not work out was how to use it, as none of his dancers could drive very well. I pleaded with him to let me dance a duet with it. He objected that the dangers of my being run over were too strong. I said that he had misunderstood me, and that I wished to carry it round the stage. But the story of how I did so, and how I was spotted by the American promoter Don Cantorini, will have to wait till another chapter."

I trust this has helped to adjust the common image of the male dancer as something of a sissy.

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 163)

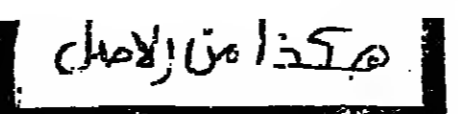


- ACROSS
- 1 Cooked roll (7)
 - 5 Depth determiner (5)
 - 8 Hidden advantage (3)
 - 9 Cartaker (7)
 - 10 Keepsake (5)
 - 11 BBC nickname (4)
 - 12 Taking notice (7)
 - 14 Membrane fluid (check) (13)
 - 16 Japanese warriors (7)
 - 18 Official postmark (1,1,1,1)
 - 21 Amass (3,2)
 - 22 Formal letter (7)
 - 23 Possesses (3)
 - 24 Each one (5)
 - 25 Guardian (7)
- DOWN
- 1 Indian ruler (4)
 - 2 Forearm bones (5)
 - 3 Self-written life story (13)
 - 4 Soil (5)
 - 5 Excellence seeker (13)
 - 6 Morally raises (7)
 - 7 Sudden recoil (8)
 - 13 Informal talk (8)
 - 15 Proposed person (7)
 - 17 That is (2,3)
 - 19 Roadside hotel (5)
 - 20 Mad Shakespearean king (4)
- SOLUTION TO No 162
- ACROSS: 1 Pathos 5 Scribe 8 Pup 9 Advice 10 Oncoast 11 Brjo 12 Threnody 14 Foolhardiness 17 Chain saw 19 Nook 21 Noctule 23 Grisle 24 DOE 25 Ashore 26 Royals
- DOWN: 2 Alder 3 Hot polloi 4 Spectra 5 Spoor 6 RUC 7 Besides 13 Nonentity 15 Ochrous 16 Downer 18 Suede 20 Ousel 22 Duo

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London's longest-running party
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The woman of letters

Bad writing can result in failed exams and emotional problems in later life. Helen Mason meets a woman bringing hope to those in difficulty

The handwriting of children in schools today is blighted by a supposedly enlightened decision which educationists made in the 1950s. They decided that to teach handwriting was repressive, and as a result, the expertise of how to teach, and how to teach teachers, is almost gone.

That is the opinion of Rosemary Sassoon, who has spent three years researching in schools and is appalled by the difficulties thousands of children are experiencing. Rosemary Sassoon is a calligrapher, lecturer and tutor. When she was asked by an education authority to create a course of remedial writing, she went for advice to university colleagues and was taken back to discover the person they regarded as expert was herself.

Not a woman to shirk responsibility, she devoted herself to the problem and now she has written a book on the subject. It is a manual for teachers and parents and a work of fascination for children themselves. Often Rosemary Sassoon can correct handwriting merely by seeing a writing sample. Sometimes she has to watch a child in action. One headmistress begged for help for a bright girl who had failed A levels, because she had been unable to complete her papers in time. A sample of her writing was faultless but when Rosemary Sassoon saw the girl write, she realised that the wrong grip was creating muscle tensions which made long writing sessions agony. That problem was cured by a triangular plastic pencil grip which changed her habit of crossing thumb and forefinger into open pen.

Some solutions are even simpler. Posture and light, children sitting at tables the wrong height and left-handers working in shadow, paper position, paper surface and most of all grip, all contribute to bad results. Rosemary Sassoon would like to see schools adopt a flowing first alphabet, which leads naturally into

ursive writing. I can think of one stout nun, proud of the neat printing she has established throughout an entire primary school, who will be affronted by that. She and many other well-meaning teachers who believe that letters with joining strokes are beyond the capabilities of five-year-old children will be surprised by the excellent samples of juvenile joined-up writing (as shown below) reproduced in the book.

The Pied Piper

"I think it helped that I'm not a teacher", Rosemary Sassoon said, "and it helped that I have children of my own". She has three daughters, the youngest 18, and is married to an educationist who, anonymously, wrote the epilogue to her book.

Although a letterer by training and inclination, she is quite surprised in her early 50s, to find herself writing books. Those who know her, even those who meet her briefly, are surprised it has taken her so long. She is, in her own understatement, a compulsive communicator. It is difficult to imagine any teacher resisting the lucidity and joy of writing, the logic and flexibility of the manual she has produced.

Rosemary Sassoon herself is more realistic. "I don't expect everyone to agree with the book, but I hope it will make people think", she said. "I hope there is nothing in it which will harm any child. I hope it won't arouse anyone's rage. The only people who will be against it are those with a vested financial interest in one style. A lot of money goes into writing a copy book, a manual with one style. I give everyone who had done that credit for research - a tremendous amount of research goes into work like that - but having produced it, they are not likely to want to revise it."

Some children are miserably aware that their handwriting betrays their sense of failure not only to teachers but future employers. Remedial exercises to relax grip and create flowing movement, explanations about the importance of



Rosemary Sassoon: "Beauty in writing will emerge as a result of doing things properly"

forming letters correctly, repetitive patterns to reprogramme the mind and hand, can create improvements which seem like magic to a child labelled a no-hoper. "Putting people in a remedial stream is a very depressing thing and it shows more and more in the handwriting", Rosemary Sassoon said. "When I realized that these stroke related exercises (below) are just as relevant for ten-year-olds and 15-year-olds, that was very important."

Adults may joke about their handwriting, Rosemary Sassoon jokes about her own, but unhappy children do not joke, particularly when parents and exasperated teachers put pressure on them. Factors to be considered before blaming a child might be physical such as bad eyesight, psychological, neurological or environmental. It is even possible to detect behavioural problems from a child's handwriting such as bullying, antagonism to a teacher and problems at home. The Practical Guide to Children's Handwriting (Thames & Hudson, £4.95).

Some children are miserably aware that their handwriting betrays their sense of failure not only to teachers but future employers. Remedial exercises to relax grip and create flowing movement, explanations about the importance of

They're hiding not of honey

Some children are miserably aware that their handwriting betrays their sense of failure not only to teachers but future employers. Remedial exercises to relax grip and create flowing movement, explanations about the importance of

Knowing all the safe alternatives

Renewed interest in "alternative" therapies has left many people confused about whether such treatment is available on the NHS. The picture is further confused by the launch of the exclusive British Holistic Medical Association, with the majority of the founding members being NHS GPs.

A GP who refers you to a non-medically qualified practitioner and then absolves himself of any responsibility for your care can, in theory, be charged with professional misconduct by the General Medical Council. The British Holistic Medical Association manages to avoid that local difficulty by advising members that it is in order to refer a patient to a non-medically qualified therapist, provided the doctor knows and trusts the practitioner, implicitly suggesting that the responsibility will continue to be shared.

People who operate lasers - whether they are medically or non-medically qualified - should take a "driving" test and have to hold a valid licence. Frances Wright, general secretary of the Society of Health and Beauty Practitioners, believes this is the only genuine assurance patients could have if they want to check that the person who is about to remove a skin blemish or tattoo really appreciates the hazards of using lasers. Using a laser without proper training is just as dangerous, she says, as a 15-year-old borrowing a Porsche for a joyride.

The number of patients who have received ghastly burns because lasers were used improperly during the last

MEDICAL BRIEFING

year has prompted the Department of Health to produce a consultation paper outlining proposals for controls on lasers used for medical purposes. Miss Wright says the guidance does not go far enough and will do little to protect the unsuspecting patient. Although the department says that any premises where lasers are installed, whether run by doctors or beauty therapists, must be inspected at least twice a year, she argues that unless the inspectors are trained in the use of lasers themselves, the controls will be worthless.

Her own society grants diplomas for users of lasers after intensive training. The syllabus, which concentrates on safety, was drawn up in conjunction with the Health and Safety Executive and the British Standards Institute.

Pressure points Having your blood pressure measured is unpleasant - the inflated cuff round the arm can leave an uncomfortable tingling sensation afterwards, coupled with the worry that your own blood pressure may not be all right. Accurate blood pressure measurements are notoriously difficult to achieve and a study in Milan published in the *Lancet* describes just how dramatic fluctuations in blood pressure can be triggered.

Patients expecting their blood pressures were about to be taken were so nervous that as soon as a doctor appeared at their bedside - some minutes before the measuring paraphernalia was put on - the blood pressure shot up. The pressure reached a peak four minutes later, about the time a reading would normally be taken, falsely indicating that the blood pressure was pathologically raised.

Cynics might be tempted to suggest that the study says more about blood pressure measurement, but research in many other parts of the world has shown that self-monitoring and continuous monitoring of blood pressure gives lower values than the cuff method. Yet the Italian study is interesting because it is the appearance of the doctor that triggered the alarm reaction and not the restriction of the cuff.

Agriculture, Fisheries and Food

proposed that calcium, vitamin B1, nicotinic acid, thiamine and iron should no longer have to be added to flour. It was argued that people could get adequate supplies from other foods. The regulations, if passed by Parliament, would come into force in 1986.

The move was met with consternation by doctors. They were concerned in particular that elderly women and youngsters in poorer communities - two groups especially prone to bone disease and for whom broad fibres are an important part of their diet - might suffer from the loss of a vital source of calcium.

Now the millers are also calling for the requirements to be relaxed. The National Association of British and Irish Millers is to meet the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food and, it hopes, the DHSS next month to discuss the issue.

Cold response Keep warm this winter. Even a slight fall in body temperature can affect a person's mental functioning and reaction times. Medical College have discovered. They fear this could be the cause of accidents. It has been known for some time that a severe drop in body temperature causes confusion, loss of consciousness and even death. Now in a series of ingenious experiments which involved immersing volunteers in baths of water at different temperatures, Professor Bill Keatinge and his colleagues have shown that even mild cooling could be important.

They have found that individuals have no difficulty remembering facts they learned while warm if they get chilled. However a person's ability to learn new things begins to deteriorate as soon as his or her temperature falls below 36°C, just three tenths of a degree below the normal body temperature. By the time a person's temperature has fallen to 34 or 35°C, which would be regarded clinically as very cold or hypothermic, his or her ability to remember is cut by 70 per cent. In addition, the time a person takes to do calculations lengthens as body temperature drops, until at around 34°C simple tasks can take twice as long. The aim of these experiments was to find out why diving accidents occur. The researchers believe, however, that their findings could also be significant to other people who need speedy and effective responses, but who are also likely to get cold - car drivers for example.

Olivia Timbs and Lorraine Fraser

Angela Douglas tells Penny Perrick of life without Kenneth More

Angela Douglas started to write her autobiography "as occupational therapy for both herself and her husband, Kenneth More, who was dying of a rare form of Parkinson's disease. "I thought as soon as the spring arrived, I'd be able to stop. My plan was to go back to the publisher, give them back the money they'd paid me as an advance and say, 'Thanks very much, it got me through the winter but I can't possibly write a book.'"



Angela: "We went through fire together"

Instead, she went on writing after Kenneth More's death 14 months ago and has produced a book that's quirky, touching and sometimes very painful to read, something far removed from most ghost-written showbiz autobiographies held together by strings of anecdotes. Kenneth More might not have been ideal business material for anyone but Angela. He was never around on house-moving days, loved to stay out late drinking at the Garrick and definitely thought that looking after him should take precedence over his wife's acting career. He was also charming, intelligent and brave. "Loving him was my disease," says Angela in *Swings and Roundabouts*, but if it was, Kenneth had it too. It is clear from his autobiography, *More or Less* that he adored Angela, his third wife and 26 years his junior, in a way that he had never felt about any other woman. "A day without her was like a summer without her," he said. "She was 21 when I met her, and I was 47. With that

whether you're a violet or a climbing rose," is one of her firm beliefs and during Kenneth's last illness, she proved she was a climbing rose. "During the time he was ill I was literally pink with pleasure, suffused with fulfilment. My best friend said that she didn't find this surprising because 'all you ever needed was for him to need you.' During that last year of Kenneth's life, Angela's best friend died of cancer and her sister, Elaine, was killed in a car crash. Angela went staunchly on, cheering Kenneth up, having her hair done, going to keep-fit classes. "If I'd gone around looking terrible, it would have had a bad effect on him. Anyway, what's the alternative other than coping? You only start to panic when there is an alternative."

A rose blossoms once again

It was only after Kenneth's death, on July 12, 1982, when he was 67, that the exhaustion set in. "I was so tired that if I just went out to have tea with a friend, I'd have to go to bed for 36 hours afterwards. I thought I was going to die of exhaustion. Now, I take lift one day at a time. Ten days out of eleven I can cope and if a bad day hits me, I just buddle under the duvet until it's over. "I'd like some peace of mind, and I'm getting some, gradually. I worried about Kenny dying for 20 years. That's the swings and roundabouts situation again, isn't it? If you marry someone older, you worry that they might die; if you marry someone young, you worry that they might push off. "Kenneth and I went through fire together. One of the worst times was when he left home to live with me and was shunned by most of his friends. That's had a lasting effect on me. The price I paid for living through that time is that I'm still, socially, very insecure. "There are lots of things I could do now. Kenny wasn't very keen on my doing anything new, he'd say, 'Do it when I've gone.' I've got television work. I'm helping to run the Kenneth More Memorial Fund, in aid of research into Parkinson's Disease - we've raised £80,000 in nine months. In fact, at 42, I'm having a taste of the sort of life that Kenny had - and it's very nice. I can understand why he was always so happy. "I can't really give advice to other widows; I think everyone has to cope in the way that's best for them, but I would say: if you can grab hold of a bit of hope, you'll be astonished at the effect. "Swings and Roundabouts. An Autobiography by Angela Douglas. Published by Elm Tree Books at £8.95.

One illness you cannot kiss better

FIRST PERSON

Jonathan Sale If it is any consolation to Sebastian Coe and David Steel, I know exactly how they feel. What I have in common is not athletic record-breaking (far from it) or leading the Liberals (even further from it) but rather it is being bowled over by a mysterious virus and not being able to pick oneself up the following week, month or, in my case, year. With David Steel, the disease seemed to be influenza. Sebastian Coe, unfortunately, is being placed under the microscope, with particular reference to his glands. If my own glandular fever is anything to go by, he will not be running for the bus, let alone the next Olympics. My day was early in September 1966, an evening, to be precise, when I began to feel

what doctors refer to as "a bit under the weather, old chap". Next morning I appeared to have flu, except that the symptoms were all slightly different. The loom got it right first time: "It looks like glandular fever", he said, lowering his voice and barely in time refraining from crossing himself. Today there is AIDS for practising gays; and for promiscuous heterosexuals there is herpes. In 1966 we had to make do with infectious mononucleosis, alias "the kissing disease", which shows how well-behaved we were. It was quite enough to be going on with. Glandular fever is very rarely fatal but always very, very annoying. The patient gets up after a week and imagines that recovery is on the way. Certainly this patient did, but it was not. After three weeks, I staggered back to work, only to have the symptoms recur. "I've got glandular fever", I told the GP, now back from his ill-earned holidays. "I decide what you've got",

he snapped, although he never made up his mind, to judge by the bottle of placebo he prescribed. After a while I left my job, bachelor flat, friends and girlfriends (those of whom, despite the disease's nickname seemed to have been any the worse), and moved into my parents' house, where the service was better. "Yes, it might be glandular fever", agreed the local GP, taking a blood test. "No it's not", he declared on examining the results. I got up for a week and the symptoms returned. He took another test. "Yes, it could well be glandular fever", he stated. "Soon I was up and about. This was Christmas 1966. Convalescence went on for a year. "We know all about glandular fever", said the GP, "except what it is and how to cure it." Finally, around Christmas 1967, I gave in. The GP had long ago suggested that it might be all in the mind and that, how should he put it, a mental expert might be in order. I went to a psychiatrist who

ran through his list of tablets, most of which made me see double, until he chanced upon a tranquilizer named Librium. Literally overnight, I was firing on four cylinders again, back in business, ooze to the grindstone and other figures of speech that had been totally foreign to me. I celebrated the seventeenth anniversary of the glandular attack by consulting Dr T. J. Jamali, a haematologist at the Royal Victoria Hospital, Bournemouth, and author of a recent *British Medical Journal* paper on the subject. "We know it's the Epstein-Barr virus, a type of herpes virus discovered in 1964. A lot of patients are written off as hysterical or neurotic, but such a condition as yours really does exist. The longest history I found was 10 years. You can treat the symptoms with non-steroidal, anti-inflammatory drugs." Now he tells me. They have known what it is and how to combat it. Let's hope that Sebastian Coe is in the right hands.

Brakes	Indicators	Engine oil	Gearbox oil	Rear axle oil	Cooling water	Suspension
Steering	Brake fluid	Clutch fluid	Battery acid	Main beam oil	Parking lights	Side lights
Stop lights	Reversing lights	Number plate lights	Defrosting agent	Interior lights	Heater motor	Clock
Cigarette lighters	Screen wiper/washer	Horns	Hazard warning	Heated rear screen	Radio/cassette/aerial	Ignition
Choke	Handbrake	Footbrake	Steering lock	Bonnet catch	Keys	Door stops
Dash gauges	Boot lock	Heater vent flaps	Seat adjusters	Locks	Clutch	Windows
Tyres	Tyre pressures	Wheels	Spark plugs	Idling speed	Dwell angle	Door hinges
Grease nipples	Chrome	Interior	Paintwork	Owner literature	Seat belts	Rear axle

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THE TIMES DIARY

Delaying the name

The selection committee that is to nominate a successor to Ralf Dahrendorf as director of the Lendoo School of Economics is in disarray. The reason is not so much disagreement over the successor, whose name it hoped to announce next Tuesday, as the absence through illness of both Professor Dahrendorf and the pro-director, Alan Day. It may be impossible now to keep to the Tuesday deadline. My favourite is still Professor Barry Supple, although one dark horse is said to be Shirley Williams, SDP president and a friend of Dahrendorf. Mrs Williams confirms she was approached, but says she is not interested - yet.

Seeing the wood

Harpers & Queen has discovered the environment - which is a bit like Gertrude Stein accepting the universe - and, predictably, has zoomed in on the personable Jonathan Porritt, a 32-year-old Old Etonian who is all that most people know about the Ecology Party. The current issue shows Jonathan in a languid pose under the greenwood trees, ever local, that rare coalition to the Green Movement, acceptable at a dance and invaluable at a public inquiry. I like better his 10-point "green-print for survival", which includes the exhortation to eschew plastic carrier bags. This indecently fat issue of *Harpers*, the editors have the grace to admit, at 350 pages "probably cleared a forest".

Own goal

Who says the far left has no sense of humour? Consider the following from a recent issue of *Red Action*, the organ of the Squaddists, breakwaters from the Socialist Workers Party. "About 60 assorted trolls and their supporters came to a Red Action public meeting on Ireland the evening before the hunger strikers march part two. After a brief history of Britain's bloody role in Ireland over the last 800 years, several speakers outlined the reasons for our unconditional and uncritical support for the armed struggle. A special award for initiative and intelligence will not be going to the Red Action member who managed to book the meeting in the pub used by the Glasgow Rangers London supporters club".



BARRY FANTONI

Horning in

I am often taken aback at the acquisitive oress of my readers, in the nicest possible way of course. Recent disclosures about the availability of Munch lithographs, French grapevines and even the sponsorship of hutterly reserves have provoked vast surges of inquiries. Here is your big chance: a Tlingit antler comb, one of only two of its kind in existence, valued at £13,380. Its report has been appended for two months by the Minister for the Arts to give public collections in Britain a crack at it. The Tlingits are not a misty of Things but a tribe that lived on the north-west coast of North America. The comb, probably of caribou antler, almost certainly dates from the earliest contact with Europeans in the eighteenth century. Don't call me; call Lord Gowrie.

● A list of newspapers requested by the heads of our great public schools, who met at St John's College, Cambridge, this week, showing that 135 take *The Times* every morning, 28 *The Telegraph* and 43 *The Guardian*. The remaining 43 had none.

Girl talk

Boy George, befooled male singer with the hit band Culture Club, has evidently started something. A straight-faced press release this week informs us that "in a hotly contested deal", a singer called Marilyn had signed a contract with the Phonogram record company. "Phonogram are very pleased to have concluded the deal", it continues. "We regard Marilyn as a major new talent and he is starting work in the studio this week."

My note earlier this week about the brisk letter fired off by Chelsea FC chairman Ken Bates to young Ian Brunning, who had complained about violence at the Brighton-Chelsea match, has apparently inspired Bates to reconsider. In rather more measured tones he has written again to say that "I hope that with the passing of time you can agree with me" and inviting Brunning to be his guest at Chelsea's next home game so he can see for himself how most of the club's supporters behave. Nice one. Ian. PHS

Reagan, sailing to disaster?

Damascus
When the American battleship *New Jersey* appeared off Beirut last week, she made an impressive sight. Her 16-inch guns, capable of sending one-ton shells 20 miles into Lebanon, were clearly visible from shore as she steamed slowly north.

The message was simple: Washington's commitment to President Amin Gemayel's regime was a credible one, supported as it was by overwhelming fire-power. Or so it seemed.

Yet the *New Jersey's* guns were built for another war. They were intended to plough the beaches of Pacific islands to eliminate suicidal Japanese troops before US marines stormed ashore. One broadside can blow up a hill, wipe out a village, destroy half a town. Was this really what the Americans were threatening to do in Lebanon?

It dawned on some of those in Beirut who had advocated this show of force - American embassy officials among them - that the guns of the *New Jersey* might be only psychological, that they dare not actually be fired.

This was not so evident in Damascus. The Syrian army concluded that the intention was to destroy the strategic mountain road west of Chautara that is used to carry arms and ammunition from the Bekaa Valley up into the Chouf foothills. Only the *New Jersey's* guns could reach that far.

For the Syrians, the message was therefore simple: the US was threatening to cut the supply line to the Druze militias and force them to negotiate with President Gemayel. One day after the *New Jersey* steamed up the coast, the Druze and the Syrians did agree to a ceasefire.

But would the Americans ever have fired the *New Jersey's* guns? And who are their enemies supposed to be? These are important questions because few diplomats in either Beirut or Damascus believe that the current truce will last.

At one point during the fighting President Reagan had actually given permission for US bombers to make



The *New Jersey*, symbol of US power - and impotence

air strikes against the Druze when the government army was in imminent danger of losing the village of Souq el-Gharb on the ridges above Beirut. They had made an initial pass over their targets when Mr Robert McFarlane, Mr Reagan's special envoy, decided that this would be too dramatic a military escalation and ordered a naval bombardment instead.

In some ways, it was natural that Mr McFarlane would have made such a calculation. He is a military man, an ex-Marine officer, a senior member of the National Security Council. As the State Department and its advisers in the Middle East carry ever less influence in Washington, so US military involvement in Lebanon has increased. We have heard precious little from Mr McFarlane, for example, about Washington's long-term policy objectives.

According to Mr Reagan, the Americans are witnessing "Soviet-sponsored aggression" in Lebanon. The Russians, he says, are "beating imperialism, on expansion and aggression". Mr Reagan has often cited Afghanistan as an example of this Soviet policy.

The Druze in Lebanon find this a curiously appropriate parallel: just as the Russians have decided to assault a poor, agrarian, Islamic people, they say, so have the Americans chosen to attack an Islamic sect fighting for its homeland in Lebanon. Just as Moscow has claimed that the US sponsors

arms supplies to the Mujahideen guerrillas in Afghanistan, so the US is now claiming that the Russians are using the Syrians to send arms to the Druze.

The Druze parallel is a facile one, but it does point up Mr Reagan's apparent inability to understand just what is going on in Lebanon. When the Israelis invaded last year, they injected their Christian Phalangist allies into the Druze foothills and thus fuelled a civil war that broke out in all its fury when they withdrew their army to the Awali River early this month.

The Druze drove the Phalangists out of 85 per cent of the mountains, then found that the government army was taking over positions previously held by the Phalangis. In some cases, Phalangist and Lebanese army guns fired virtually alongside each other against the Druze. Thus a new conflict was kindled, with the US dragged in.

Moscow watched all this with interest, if not with pleasure. Since the Israelis began their withdrawal on September 4, at least six senior Soviet officials and two generals have flown to Damascus to be briefed on the fighting.

It is this issue of taking sides that is at the crux of the problem. The US insists that it is supporting the legitimate government of President Gemayel. But the Gemayel family secured presidency only with Israel's support, and in President Gemayel's brief period of tenure he has alienated many of his own people.

In one sense, Mr Reagan has at least identified one of the principal adversaries of his Middle East policy. For President Assad, the Syrian-Israeli war has not yet ended. He wishes to ensure, for strategic as well as political reasons, that Israel receives no rewards for her invasion of Lebanon.

Syria does not in fact want the civil war in Lebanon to continue, though it has ferried hundreds of tons of arms and supplies to the Druze over the past month. There is a Druze community inside Syria and Syrian authorities here have already formed a Christian-Druze committee to ensure that no hostilities between the two faiths break out within Syria.

There have nevertheless been a number of disputes between them and the Syrian authorities have now banned Syrian Druze from travelling to Lebanon to fight alongside the Druze militia there. The potential for conflict is a matter of serious concern to the authorities in Damascus, for both the Druze and the Christians form important elements in the Syrian armed forces.

The price of peace now looks like a permanent US presence in Lebanon, supporting a government that will be increasingly susceptible to Syrian - and thus Soviet - influence and ever less friendly to Washington's closest Middle East ally, Israel.

Lebanon has broken or helped to break many politicians and diplomats over the years: the most recent of them Alexander Haig, Ariel Sharon, Philip Habib and Menachem Begin. With the US presidential elections scarcely a year away, Mr Reagan would do well to bear this in mind.

The *New Jersey* still lies off the Lebanese coast, a symbol of power and also of impotence. The Lebanese will soon be able to find out if it also represents current US policy in the Middle East, whether, too, it might be a portent of an American tragedy in the region.

Robert Fisk

Hongkong: Bernard Levin considers the human factor

To the rescue - of five million



hit too far, in contrast with the liberal Khrushchev. Then Khrushchev was no more, and heads were shaken, lips pursed; thank goodness for the truly liberal Mr Brezhnev, who will have oodles of the excesses of his predecessor. Then Brezhnev died and his widow, and at once we were being told that the almost unbearably liberal Mr Andropov was going to do away with the cruelties and oppressions of the brutal Brezhnev.

So it is with China. We have not, thank God, heard anything for some time from Messrs Felix Greene and Neville Maxwell; but look at the famous "Wall of Democracy", with its array of hand-written posters and newspapers demanding elections and such. But you will need keen eyes to look at it; it was swept away a couple of years ago, and the writers of the messages shipped off to the concentration camps in the Chinese interior, where they will have plenty of time to look forward to the denunciations of their jailers by western fellow-travellers just as soon as their jailers have been replaced by new and unbelievably liberal successors.

If Hongkong reverts in 1997 to rule by China, it will be ruled by one of the most complete and ruthless dictatorships on earth. Not to be sure, the worst of all, and not with the insane ferocity of Mao's storm-troopers, but a system of government nevertheless that denies all the freedoms that we have in full in Britain and that the people of Hongkong have in ample measure. Fourteen years is not a long time in politics when the politics in question consists of matters as momentous as that.

Very well; he who pricks the bubble must provide the soap. If, as I insist, it is unthinkable that Britain should hand over five million British-protected persons, citizens of the Commonwealth for whom we have a direct and inescapable constitutional responsibility, to the monstrous tyranny of Chinese communism (as well as, incidentally, to the monstrous poverty of the same), can and should be done about it while there is yet time?

First, let us agree that if the Chinese rulers stand upon their rights under thecession treaty, and it seems clear that they will, we cannot refuse to abide by its terms. It would be interesting, no doubt, to drop an independent nuclear deterrent or two on Peking, but this is not a practicable possibility, or for that matter a nice one. What other, more realistic choices are there?

I believe that there is only one. We must regard Hongkong as a ship that is going to sink 14 years from now, and we must mount a rescue operation to save all its passengers and crew. Those citizens of Hongkong who refuse to accept rule by China (no doubt some, not necessarily including all its substantial communist minority, will be willing to do so) must be helped to leave and to settle elsewhere.

Obviously, this cannot be done by simply inviting them to Britain, though as a matter of fact the astounding dilapidation and decay of the Hongkong Chinese have displayed for many years could transform our economy. An abrupt influx of some millions of Asians would be unassimilable, quite apart from the clamour raised by Mr Enoch Powell, who, to judge by his comments on

Lebanon, in any case probably believes that it is no business of Britain's who rules in Hongkong.

As soon as the question of the post-1997 rule of Hongkong is settled, Britain must launch what may well prove to be the most gigantic international enterprise ever conducted. Our government must not, of course, take the problem to the United Nations - as well bode to save a lamb from a tiger by putting it under the protection of a wolf - but must seek to set up and convene an association of countries willing to be part of the rescue operation. This means - must mean - willing to take in a share of the refugees; I know that this is not a propitious time to be asking countries struggling with recession to offer such hospitality; but we are entitled to demand that countries which value freedom for themselves should practically help the cause of freedom elsewhere; the American right, for a start, can show what sincerity there is in their eternal claim that US policy "lost China to the communists" by demanding that their country play its full part in the operation. Nor can we be too squeamish about the invitations; just as the present Chinese totalitarianism is obviously not as bad as the Soviet one, so there are countries more or less authoritarian which for the refugees would be a very considerable improvement on a rule from Peking, the most obvious of these being Singapore (Taiwan, the natural choice, itself faces a too critical and uncertain future vis-a-vis China.)

On the whole, the modern world's behaviour towards refugees from tyranny has been appalling: from the persecuted Jews of Nazi Germany, via the victims of Yalta sent to their death in the Soviet Union at the end of the war, all the way to the "boat people" of Vietnam, the characteristic sound of the West faced with appeals from the suffering has been the slamming of a door. Only India, who could hardly help herself in the circumstances, went against this sorry tide; a million people fled from East Bengal, or Bangladesh, into the already suffocating Calcutta. But Calcutta, it is worth pointing out, has survived.

In any case, the Hongkong refugees are different, in one crucial respect, from all others. Hitherto, refugees have been those fleeing from tyranny, war, expropriation or indeed natural catastrophe; but they have all been fleeing from something actually happening to them, or imminently about to. The rescue of the people of Hongkong will be a rescue from something that is inevitable, but is not due to happen for another 14 years. That means that, uniquely, there is time for the help needed by the refugees to be carefully and gradually planned, explained, and finally provided.

But there will only be time for such an operation if it is started soon. No doubt Mrs Thatcher wishes Hongkong had never existed, at any rate as a British responsibility. But it is a British responsibility, and if men must die to uphold that responsibility in the South Atlantic, they must live to uphold it in the China Sea.

Our government will be tempted to hope that something will turn up, to argue that the situation in a decade or so may be utterly different from what it is now, even to try the obvious fraud of accepting Chinese assurances that Hongkong will be allowed to stay free. But the earth goes round once a day, and when it has gone round another 5,000 times or so, it will be too late to turn it back. In the words with which Churchill used to end his wartime minutes: Acton this day.

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David Watt

World Bank but no world view

Of all the expressions of postwar international idealism, the World Bank and International Monetary Fund have been by far the most durable and effective. Both bodies have had faults and limitations but they have, for nearly 40 years, abundantly testified to the practical genius of Keynes and White and the rest of their creators.

Obviously it would be wrong to say that they have been responsible for the prodigious growth of the world economy since 1945. But it is certainly true that the Bank has spread that growth far more widely than would otherwise have been the case and the IMF has stabilized and smoothed its progress in a remarkable fashion.

Of course the business cycle has continued on its switchback way, but the elaborate system of international financial cooperation, of which the IMF and Bank are the central pillars, has successfully prevented the wild fluctuations of earlier times. What is more, they have borne witness to the fundamental commitment of the modern industrial world to the idea that purposeful international cooperation can prevent a return to the anarchy and misery of the inter-war years.

It is very evident from the news from Washington this week that both institutions are in a bad way. What has gone wrong? Why is it that the IMF is on the brink of running out of cash? Why isn't the Bank allowed to increase its capital and why is its soft-loan offshoot, the International Development Association, being starved of funds? If the pillars are being eroded, is not the whole edifice likely to crash into ruins?

The short answer is that things do indeed look black, and the reason is not so much because immediate disaster would strike if the operations of IMF and Bank came to a halt. At a pinch, no doubt, we should find other stopgap ways of shoring up the building. The disturbing thing is to observe the attitudes that the present crisis betrays in the main actors on this international economic stage. Here, as elsewhere in the international system, a myopic, parochial nationalism holds sway, with everyone desperately struggling and chafing against the bonds of their dependence on others, instead of trying to manage their interdependence more constructively.

In this case the main - though not the sole - culprit at present is the US, where an unholy alliance of motives appears to be at work. The least dubious of these is a strong ideological commitment to financial "discipline". The argument of, say Mr Donald Regan, the US Secretary of the Treasury, would go something like this: "The liberals want us to solve the 'present crisis' of Third World debt by pouring new money into Brazil and other such sinks via the IMF and Bank. But if we do that, how will we ever induce them to live within their means?"

There are real arguments here and I do not want to dismiss them lightly. The trouble is that what comes across far more clearly than these economic pros and cons is the tone of the debate, which is less related to the technicalities of whether there should be more world liquidity than it is to what scores are going to be paid off.

One of the main elements in the Congressional debate, for instance,

is a desire to punish the private bankers for their "irresponsible" lending to Latin America in 1980 and 1981. Congressmen, particularly of the old radical variety, are on a familiar rampage. The argument is that if the IMF and Bank get a bit of new money to bail out Brazil and the other debtor countries, these will then repay their debts to the private sector, and the fat cats in Dallas and Atlanta and New York will be able to relax in their limousines again. But it is another factor in the reaction which goes much wider is a powerful resentment against the Third World. The prevailing view in Congress and in some parts of the Administration is that developing countries are spendthrifts, ingrates, anti-American and often pro-communist. The remarks (since endorsed by President Reagan himself) of one of the senior US representatives to the United Nations to the effect that that country floated off down the East River in New York, Americans would be on the dock cheering them goodbye, sums up the mood exactly.

But the most important factor is an unstated but strong suspicion of multilateralism. The basic objection of the new right to the Bank and IMF is precisely the aspect of their activities that most concerned them to their founding fathers - the attempt to tame the raw politics of these international economic questions. A political board takes the ultimate decisions and, unlike the UN General Assembly, countries like the US who put up most money get the most pull; but the proposals originate in a supposedly neutral secretariat and are worked out on relatively objective criteria. Major contributors have to submit memoranda, an uncomfortable intellectual debate and moral pressure in the ruling committee.

The constraints upon the use of American power that these arrangements represent are bitterly resented and interlock with the notion of the world Hobbesian jungle, impenetrable to human reason, where power is almost the only arbiter of affairs and well-meaning attempts to plan will only make matters worse. The views I am describing here are, of course, not consistently held and even at their most extreme tend to be mixed up, in a confusing fashion, with high-flown echoes of the multilateral past and occasional recognition that the enlightened self-interest of the West and the northern hemisphere may require a more flexible and cooperative approach. President Reagan's address to the Bank/IMF meeting this week, for instance, combined support for the fund in principle with a tenacious resolve to prevent its being able to expand its practice. The rescue of Mexico last year and the rescue of Brazil now being negotiated are evidence that in a crisis, the instinct of self-preservation overrides dogma and suspicion. These countries cannot be allowed to default, for if they did, a major financial crash would follow.

But crisis management is not enough and in the long haul what we need is bigger and better cooperative, permanent institutions. It is possible that the Bank and the IMF are, as their critics claim, being asked to do the impossible, but in that case they should be reformed and they will only be reformed successfully in a climate very different from that which now appears to prevail in Washington.

Philip Howard

Fine cuts and no padding

Not everything that calls itself a sport is sporting. Twelve-metre yacht racing is evidently a branch of higher crime, to which we never had the most moosey, chest beat, and whinges loudest when losing, wins. It is as exciting for spectators as watching an oak tree growing. Shooting pheasants that have been bred for death is sport only in a transferred sense. A rat-killing match with sticks and terriers would be far more sporting.

At the other end of the scale, among the true sports, there is one that is not just a sport, but an art form also; and that, of course, is cricket. We see nothing incongruous about a great critic such as Neville Cardus combining musical criticism with cricket criticism. The idea of a great opera critic combining it with a lesser sport like golf is absurd. Maybe we should carry our cricket reports on the Arts Page.

Cricket is not just a sport and an art, but also a very English idiosyncrasy. As such, it attracts far more letters in that pavilion of national idiosyncrasies, the Letters Page of *The Times*, than all other sports combined. My ingenious friend and colleague, Marcus Williams, one rainy day had the notion of searching the back-numbers of *The Times* for cricketing letters. He gave up counting when the number he had unpaged passed the world record first-class score of 1,107 by Victoria against New South Wales.

Many of them have a passion that the English reserve for matters of national importance, such as royalty and cruelty to animals. You might suppose that a campaign to reform the law would be a dry topic of interest only to insiders and insiders. But here is F. G. J. Ford - "six feet two of don't care", the cricketing scribes called him because of his insouciant approach to batting - driving and hooking in the correspondence columns of *The Times* on the subject of the parsimonious pad-play that made the change necessary: "the evil microbes"; "the fons et origo mali"; "this curse of modern cricket which has eaten into the very soul of the

game and cast a slur upon the moral value of the very word 'cricket'." He denied that the practice he stamped out "like an earwig under the boot".

Today Marcus publishes a selection of cricketing letters to *The Times* between hard covers under the title of *The Way to Lord's* (Collins). Hard covers for pitches are one of the topics. Others indicate that there is nothing new under the cricketing sun. A century ago letters were deploring in Doomsday tones that cricket was dying or dead. Years ahead of their time correspondents to *The Times* were recommending the cancellation of a tour by South Africa to England (1901); demanding Sunday play in Test matches (1926); lowering against overseas players in the English game (1909); and the readiness of players to leave the field for bad light (1913).

The correspondents themselves are a notable team, led by W. G. Grace, on the perennial crusade of reform of the law. He could pick his team of cricketing letter-writers from 16 other England captains, Learie Constantine for the West Indies, Richie Benaud and many others representing Australia, Ranjitsinhji (a letter more than a column long, stating at the end that he had written as briefly as possible), as well as second, third, and fourth elevens of amateur amateurs: Field Marshal Montgomery, Sir Alan Herbert, or Ned Sherrin?

It is apparent that batsmen rather than bowlers are moved to seize pen and scribble a letter to *The Times*. Among the jollier suggestions advanced on the Letters Page have been that the batsmen should discard their pads; that a batsman who plays out a maiden over should automatically be "out"; and that umpires should call "dears" as well as "wides" to discourage pad-play. A well-timed off-drive, preferably made by oneself is one of the great pleasures of life. But this rich collection will do very nicely to keep us warm in the months when gain stops play.



P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

THE CHINA CARD

By inviting President Reagan to China next April, Mr Deng Xiaoping and other Chinese leaders are telling the world - and China - that Sino-American relations are on the mend. But they also have one eye on next year's American presidential elections. For a long time they have harboured grave doubts about President Reagan and his intentions. But now, it seems, they have accepted that he is a man they can work with, and if need be can go on working with for the next five years.

The immediate cause of this change of heart has been the Reagan Administration's decision to ease restrictions on the export of high technology to China, especially electronics and communications equipment that can be used by the Chinese military. One of the main tasks of the United States Defence Secretary, Mr Casper Weinberger, during his visit to China this week was to assure his hosts that this decision is being implemented. The Chinese have long been asking for more, and more sophisticated, technology from the Americans, and the whole issue has become highly political. Some people in Washington, and in American defence industries, have argued against exempting China from the rules governing technology transfers to Communist states, while the Chinese themselves have chosen to regard President Reagan's attitude to technology transfers as an index of his attitude to China as a whole.

Other obstacles in the way of better relations have also been removed recently. The Reagan Administration has changed its mind about helping China with its nuclear energy programme; and a lingering dispute over Chinese textile exports has been

resolved. In themselves such disputes were relatively minor affairs; but they exacerbated other, more deep-rooted tensions - especially over Taiwan.

The Taiwan question remains the principal source of friction between the two sides. The Chinese leadership no longer accuses President Reagan of hankering after a "two China" or a "one China, one Taiwan" policy as it did until early this year. And President Reagan himself has moved a long way from the position he took as presidential candidate in 1980, when he advocated upgrading America's ties with Taiwan.

Indeed, it is arguable that during the last eighteen months or so he has made at least as many concessions over Taiwan as his predecessors. But Peking still takes strong exception to the high level of American arms sales to Taiwan, which, it claims, violates the Sino-American communiqué issued last year. And Chinese leaders still insist - as they did during Mr Weinberger's visit to Peking this week - that real progress in bilateral relations depends on the Taiwan problem being solved.

There has however been a marked change of tone in Chinese statements on Taiwan of late, and it appears that Chinese leaders are prepared to shelve the issue whilst securing concessions in other fields. This is not to say that China's long-term strategy towards Taiwan is changing. Mr Deng Xiaoping is an old man in a hurry, and he has put the reunification of Taiwan with China high on his political agenda. But now that he feels more confident about President Reagan's attitude towards China, he may be prepared to relax a little as far as Taiwan is concerned. Besides, he

may well think that in other respects the Reagan Administration suits China very well. President Reagan's tough, uncompromising attitude towards the Soviet Union enables China to gain more leeway in its own dealings with the two superpowers, secure in the knowledge that they will not join forces against it.

So much for the view from Peking. But does what suits China suit the United States equally well? In China this week the Defence Secretary seemed to suggest that Peking and Washington might eventually revive the close partnership of the late 1970s when they joined in what the Chinese called an anti-Soviet united front. He also spoke hopefully of Sino-American military co-operation, and renewed an American offer to supply China with defensive weapons. But the Chinese took a much more cautious line, and emphasised their independence vis-à-vis the two superpowers. In other words the United States is putting itself in the position of offering arms and technology to China, but without much assurance that a close relationship will develop as a result.

Indeed, the intractable nature of the Taiwan problem suggests that such a relationship could not be achieved, even if the will to achieve it were there. President Reagan may regard the prospect of better relations between Washington and Peking as a useful bargaining counter in his dealings with Moscow. Indeed his visit to Peking has always been viewed in Washington as a precondition of any consideration about a summit meeting with Mr Andropov. It remains to be seen now whether the two leaders feel they have a mutual interest in a meeting.

THE HOSKYN'S FILE

A voice that challenges the received ideas and practices of public life is always welcome. In the courtesies of the welcome, however, there is some risk that the challenge itself will escape stringent criticism. This is particularly so when it sounds as beguilingly radical as Sir John Hoskyn's attack on British political institutions did this week.

In delivering the Institute of Directors' annual lecture, Sir John (himself a successful industrialist) drew upon his experience as former head of the Prime Minister's policy unit. His theme was that the Conservatives' social and economic principles (which he fully supported) were not enough for good government because the institutional machinery is all wrong, and because the Prime Minister saw no need to change it.

Sir John therefore not only appealed for debate outside Whitehall but specifically suggested that business leaders should "do more than write cheques and ask favours". In other words, he implied that, by a kind of extra-parliamentary action on the right, they should demand institutional change as the price of their gifts to the Conservative Party, and follow the example of the trade unions when they have tried to write policy treaties with Labour administrations.

The changes they ought to demand were expressed in very generalised terms. The Prime Minister should no longer be restricted to the small pool of career politicians in forming a government; Whitehall must be organized for strategy and innovation, as well as for day to day survival; outsiders must be

brought into the civil service; the work load on ministers should be reduced. The methodology (to use one of Sir John's favourite words) by which these changes should be achieved was, however, hardly described; the most interesting part of the lecture was the justifying analysis.

Sir John's premise was that the Conservatives' second term requires a gradual transformation of our entire political economy, covering public spending, the future of the welfare state, price stability, the distortions of the tax and benefits system and a search for a proper role for the unions. His reasoning leads him towards the proposition that all-embracing welfare provisions erode the economic processes necessary to support them.

It would be hard to fault this diagnosis, but at this point Sir John took off towards horizons curiously similar to those which lured fashionable thinking in the Fifties and Sixties when it was taken as axiomatic that everything wrong with Britain could be ascribed to an antiquated parliament and a civil service full of people who had read Great-unelevated by outsiders.

We are, he argues, governed by a small political club of about 3,400 civil servants and MPs, by ministers who are guided, by mediocre civil servants who do not think but merely reflect preconceived departmental positions. Ministers are over-worked amateurs who change portfolios too often and are distracted by collective responsibility.

Yet the industrialists imported by Churchill into his post-war government made little mark compared with politicians

of the Macmillan-Butler vintage. Lord Wilson's outsiders did not transform the scene. Mr Heath imported outsiders into departments and invented the "think-tank", but politics were not regenerated. Instead, political touch was so little regarded that we ended with industrial strife, a three-day week and the government's fall.

More movement between Whitehall and industry would benefit both. But it is not Whitehall that can give direction to policy but only the politicians. It would be good if their calibre could be improved but bringing in outsiders without political skill would not necessarily improve it. In fact, if the Prime Minister wished to hush her government by an outsider of monumental potential she could already do so by bringing him or her into the Cabinet through the Lords.

Sir John is right to say that fresh thinking about the nature and direction of politics is urgently needed, that politicians should not be limited by the belief that necessary things are unattainable, and should rely more on the good sense of the electorate. But this change will not come either from making mandarins less mediocre or abolishing Cabinet collective responsibility and making each departmental minister self-sufficient. The drive for new political thinking must come from the Cabinet and above all from the Prime Minister. Unless Sir John has some thoughts about how Prime Ministers in particular and MPs in general are to be selected, his prescription does not deal with the heart of the problem he has properly raised.

SECURITY IS A STATE OF MIND

Cynics have long argued that the arms race would slow down only when nations running in it were growing short of breath. Latest projections by the International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS) suggest however that this distant dream is about to become a reality. The recession on the one hand and the mounting cost of defence on the other have for some time imposed constraints upon the Western democracies, including Britain. The Military Balance 1983-4 suggests however that even the Gulf oil states, faced by rising debts and falling revenue, may soon have to count their petrodollars.

But the effect is unlikely to be equal and can hardly benefit the West. This is not so much because the Soviet Union and its satellites are economically sounder, but because it is politically easier for a totalitarian state to concentrate scant resources on defence than it is for a liberal democracy with all the openly competing claims on its budget. In Britain successive governments have had to cope with rising costs and falling resources for some time. But the disparity is likely to widen.

Nor is this kind of effect likely to be limited to Britain. Conventional defence is relatively more expensive than nuclear in that the latter guarantees, as it is said, a bigger bang for the buck. The temptation for countries which are feeling the pinch must be to rely more heavily on the H-bomb than the iron one. Moreover this arises at a time when General Bernard Rogers, Nato's Supreme Allied Commander in Europe, is campaigning, alongside others, for an increase in allied defence spending to raise the nuclear threshold. One conclusion to be drawn from The Military Balance this year is that the reverse is more likely to happen.

The other trend to which the institute points, the shrinking pool of available young men for the armed forces, will add to the pressures for reducing national dependence on manpower. The trend is already discernible with the development of more "smart" or precision-guided munitions - and indeed the IISS notes that the "arms race" is going into reverse only in terms of quantity. Money is still being spent on raising quality.

If governments insist on maintaining numbers, they may have to turn to recruits who are older, less fit and more often female. These are policy decisions which may be taken by countries which rely upon conscription. For those like Britain which rely upon volunteers it may simply make life more difficult for those in charge of recruiting. It should already have led to a much more radical approach to the possibilities in reservist manpower.

West Germany is likely to be even more drastically affected, certainly in terms of overall numbers. This has already been noted by the Bundeswehr and has been used in argument against any idea of redeploying British or American divisions in the front line and replacing them with Germans.

None of these difficulties suggests that, whatever the rising cost of defence and the declining manpower may be, there will be any palpable reduction in the firepower available to men of ill-will. Disarmament or arms control should not start with the weapons, but the state of mind which orders them.

Impact on hospital morale of health service cuts

From Mr Graham Petrie
Sir, I imagine that it is only a very small minority of your readers, and an even smaller one in the Government, who have experience of working in a psychiatric hospital. For this reason it will be difficult for most people to understand the impact of the privatization issue in such a community.

I work in one of the psychiatric hospitals built in the last century, where we care for some 500 in-patients and many day patients in various acute and specialist departments.

We are a beleaguered community still coping with the difficulties of this year's reorganisation of the health service. It may surprise you to know that we are some 170 nurses short by the Government's "norms" (one may wonder about the quality of management that has allowed such a situation to arise).

Nevertheless the dedicated body of nursing staff, along with all the valuable ancillary staff, have maintained until now a good morale and an atmosphere in which the care of patients comes first.

Now we are faced with the issue of "privatization". This will mean not only a loss of jobs and the disappearance of familiar faces whom we have come to know and trust, but it will also destroy the sense of community which is so important in the treatment of psychiatric patients, especially those who have hitherto spent their lives in the hospital.

Paradoxically, we are on the brink of exciting developments in the mental health service and the move away from institutions such as this one will accelerate in the next 10 years. This is Government policy, but how it can be achieved with a demoralised and depressed group of staff is very difficult to understand.

Somebody, somewhere, must stop this senseless destruction of a valuable service, which is all for the sake of a few miserable pieces of silver.

I hope that by bringing this to your attention we may yet be saved from this vandalism.

Sincerely,
GRAHAM PETRIE,
Fulbourn Hospital,
Cambridge.

From Mr D. W. Parry
Sir, There is a more serious problem than that of "crying wolf" in the reaction of the regional health authorities to Mr Fowler's one per cent cut.

The National Association of Health Authorities' survey, reported in your columns some days ago (leader, September 24), apparently stated that the one per cent cut will affect "essential" and "priority" services. No competent management team would categorise services in such a way and then cut them when a mere one per cent of funding was withdrawn.

The words actually mean that those services would be the last to be cut. We surely need new management in the health service - or perhaps just a supply of dictionaries?

Yours faithfully,
D. W. PARRY,
6 Alceon Road, SE21.

From Mr L. Gilbert
Sir, I have paid into the NHS scheme all my working life. Having reached the age at which I am more likely to need its services, I feel cheated by the cuts being made. I am not in a position to use the private sector, which flourishes in proportion as the NHS is run down.

Recently Mrs Thatcher made comparisons between herself and Churchill. His major achievement was in uniting the ordinary people in opposition to a powerful section of the establishment which was seen by the people as pursuing policies opposed to their wishes.

In contrast Mrs Thatcher's policies are seen more and more as being divisive and uncaring of the national interest. The eternal human values and the need for maintaining national behaviour in international relations and, although the Soviet Union did make a mistake in shooting down the jet and in not calling a UN-sponsored international inquiry into the incident, it would be a mistake to think that your line of thinking (leading article, September 17), is devoid of those elements of healthy ideology, hysteria, oversimplification, creation of tribal feelings, self-righteousness, pharisaism and irrational belief in one's own infallibility, so that your account of the incident should be followed.

Your line of thinking is victim of the recent very un-British disease, which has struck Thatcherite Britain, which combines all the above elements and, hence, it cannot be trusted either.

Yours sincerely,
L. GILBERT,
24 Lewes Road, NI2.

From Dr W. Tarnow-Mordi
Sir, Every doctor knows of cases where, because of overwork or shortage of nursing or medical staff, the care of critically ill patients has been compromised, with avoidable loss of life or permanent damage. These cases can only be increased by spending cuts which include proposals to restrict nursing and medical staff numbers.

By ignoring this, your editorial (September 26) implies that such consequences are acceptable in your quest for long-term economic goals like reduced taxation.

In those health authorities forced to accept new budget restrictions the Prime Minister's claim that the National Health Service is "safe" will be seen to have been an abuse of language when the first deaths due to reductions in numbers of nursing and medical staff occur.

Yours sincerely,
WILLIAM TARNOW-MORDI,
14 The Croft,
Headington,
Oxford,
September 27.

From Mr D. H. Jack
Sir, With regard to your leader in today's issue of The Times headed "No time to tinker" (September 26) I can only say that no amount of indulgence in semantics will serve to hide the fact that very many of our fellow citizens are suffering increasing pain and hardship as a result of the cuts already made.

Whatever may be the best way to run the health service, there will always be room for improvement. I fail to see how the closure of hospitals and the reduction in nursing and other staff can do other than serious damage.

You may choose to describe concern about this state of affairs as "hysteria". There is a word that should be applied to those who order the cuts, and who support them - "zealots".

I am, sir, yours sincerely,
D. H. JACK,
1 Roebuck Gardens,
Blenchley,
Milton Keynes,
Buckinghamshire,
September 26.

You seem to have forgotten that in earthly politics there is one principle which says that in politics there just isn't a total bad and total good.

Greece tried to balance out the facts on the face of this principle, and, although, it did not fully succeed, at least it gave an inkling to those forgetters of the importance of this principle. People just won't believe that the American side is fully innocent (over 61 per cent of its own people will not do so - see today's New York Times/CBS poll in your newspaper), and to pretend that the fundamental principle of politics doesn't apply in the case of the West will only make international politics more irrational and uneconomical.

Also, you shouldn't forget that Greece, apart from the international politics, has a very risky local politics to take care of. In this sense, it has to be extra careful, until the US undertakes to guarantee fully its eastern borders, which it will never do.

Yours sincerely,
Y. HITZOS,
22 Lvisia Street, SW6,
September 17.

should involve loss of "parity of esteem".

It is surely time to have a close look at this particular sacred cow, which has played a bigger part in the shaping of schools than the question of the most suitable education for the various types of pupil.

The result has often been institutions which failed to make full provision for the interests of either academic or non-academic types (e.g. inadequate foreign languages for the former and inadequate workshops for the latter). The exceptions have tended to be a few well planned, usually very large, comprehensives.

I am not suggesting the scrapping of the entire comprehensive system and a return to its predecessor. I would suggest, however, that it might be worth while to consider at least experimenting with a system like those of France and (interestingly, from the social angle) Hungary and some of the other East European countries where the pupils are educated to a certain age in the same schools but are thereafter allowed to opt (with the advice of teachers and parents) between schools of, respectively, a more academic or a more technical and vocational bent.

Yours faithfully,
V. C. C. SAUNDERS,
42 Templar Road, Oxford.

No simple matter of identity

From Professor Tony Greenfield
Sir, There is no statutory requirement for any citizen of the United Kingdom to carry or to produce on demand, during normal movement, any form of identification. I am told that under the Prevention of Terrorism Act I may be required to produce some form of identification "which may be a passport or some other document that satisfies the security officer".

These words were quoted to me by a security officer at East Midlands airport, but they are the same as I have heard before from police and others. However, unless I am travelling abroad I don't carry a passport. Not everybody has a driving licence. What else is there that can be trusted as identification? Anything else can be false.

The problem arises particularly at some transfer points between Northern Ireland and the mainland, notably at Glasgow, Manchester and East Midlands airports. But why is identification demanded there and not at Heathrow, on the Liverpool or Stranraer ferries, or on the border between north and south?

If there is any value in having such checks, then all UK citizens should be issued with unforgeable identity cards. Otherwise the demands at Glasgow, Manchester and East Midlands are no better than a nuisance and should be stopped. On one occasion I had no identification at all and was told by the security man that I was foolish.

Worse still at those three places is the insistence by security staff that passengers, moving either way, should fill in a card with title, name, maiden name, first name, occupation, nationality, date and place of birth, employer, home address, place visited, address visited, purpose of visit, and date. Most of this is impertinent, useless and almost impossible to verify even if it were thought necessary.

The demands breed officiousness in security men and annoy passengers. They also increase costs. At East Midlands alone there are three men checking and collecting these cards, so perhaps 15 are employed to cover three shifts and weekends. How many more are employed uselessly and irritatingly throughout the country and at what cost? Yours faithfully,
TONY GREENFIELD,
Department of Medical Statistics,
The Queen's University of Belfast,
Institute of Clinical Science,
Grafton Road,
Belfast, Northern Ireland,
September 26.

Attitudes to Israel

From Mr Dennis Walters, MP for Walsby (Conservative)
Sir, Years ago any protest against Israeli policy or action was promptly denounced by British Zionists, who form the powerful Israeli lobby, as antisemitism. It was a disgraceful form of blackmail and its intention was to intimidate and thereby silence any criticism of Israel.

Those of us who were not prepared to submit to this sinister form of political pressure and continued to criticise Israeli policy whenever we thought it right to do so were under constant attack from the lobby.

Greville Janner, in his letter today (September 26) about Mr Ronald Dahl's review of God Cried, revives the tactic.

Mr Janner and his fellow Zionists, with a few honourable exceptions, remained lamely silent as the armed forces of Israel launched their unprovoked attack on Lebanon, devastated that unhappy country, killing countless thousands of innocent civilians, and systematically laid to waste the capital city.

They even remained silent when a year ago at Sabra and Chatila General Sharon, the Israeli Minister of Defence, connived in the appalling massacre of Palestinian women and children.

The slavish support British Zionists have given Israel, however indefensible its conduct, has been shameful.

Greville Janner's sanctimonious attack on Mr Dahl therefore makes particularly indigestible reading and by bandying about charges of antisemitism as a way of answering criticism makes an unwelcome return to argument by smear.

Yours faithfully,
DENNIS WALTERS,
House of Commons.

A Yorkshire plea

From Mr Peter Bryson
Sir, Now that the Government has grasped the GLC/metropolitan county nuptial, can we revert to being Yorkshiremen?

Only an inept backroom boy in Whitehall could have invented Humber-side; no one I know wanted it, or to pay for it; borough after borough is changing its address back to East Yorkshire; and I have no doubt the good people of Lincolnshire feel the same.

Both sides of the Humber estuary could develop more effectively on their own by reference to their own culture and infrastructure; and we could give that damn bridge to the Ministry of Transport before it costs us any more. (The revenue doesn't even pay for its upkeep.)

We can be born again!
Yours faithfully,
PETER S. BRYSON,
Windsor Hill Road,
North Ferry, North Humber-side.

Taking the point

From Mr O. J. Makower
Sir, Some years ago, on the road to Clontarf, outside Dublin, a car-hire firm displayed the sign, "Funerals. Self-drive".

The point was not missed. Yours sincerely,
O. J. MAKOWER,
71 Carlton Hill, NW8.

UN and Lebanon

From Mr Andrew H. McLuskey
Sir, It is surely a measure of how far the United Nations has dropped in public esteem that no one has seriously suggested that it take a role in the current conflict in Lebanon.

Genuine internationalism seems in fact to be on the wane, with private arrangements between the superpowers, or cobbled together "multinational" forces being used as globe-trotting fire brigades.

The world, however, grows smaller rather than larger and the recent Korean airliner disaster should remind us of the need for ever closer communication and discussion between countries.

Let us hope that in the run-up to the European elections next May we shall at least in this country have some proper debate about the limits of the nation state and constructive proposals about how genuine internationalism can once more be put on the rails.

Yours faithfully,
ANDREW H. McLUSKEY,
124 The Meadow,
Tilchurst,
Reading, Berkshire,
September 23.

Cenotaph ceremony

From Mr J. R. Wheldon
Sir, The nation honours its war dead at the Cenotaph. It does so through its main political leaders, but the honour comes from the nation, not merely the leaders.

The ceremony is organised by the Government, and it is with resentment and contempt that one learns of the Prime Minister's refusal to allow the millions of SDP voters to many of whose relatives, friends and comrades died in the Falklands and earlier campaigns - to be represented at the ceremony by their preferred political representatives.

What is Mrs Thatcher's motive? Is she afraid of the SDP? Is her Government so mean, petty and spiteful? The exclusion of the SDP leader, Dr David Owen, from the Cenotaph ceremony is a cowardly insult to millions of voters who wish to honour their war dead like everyone else.

Yours faithfully,
J. R. WHELDON,
Forest Hey,
Hook Hill Lane,
Woking,
Surrey,
September 23.

Lessons from KAL 007

From Mr Y. Hitzos
Sir, Although it is no use trying to obscure the fact that Greece did make a mistake in the degree of its condemnation of the Soviet action over the South Korean jet, failed to present convincingly the positive aspects of its action and failed to find the right balance between its national interests, the eternal human values and the need for maintaining national behaviour in international relations and, although the Soviet Union did make a mistake in shooting down the jet and in not calling a UN-sponsored international inquiry into the incident, it would be a mistake to think that your line of thinking (leading article, September 17), is devoid of those elements of healthy ideology, hysteria, oversimplification, creation of tribal feelings, self-righteousness, pharisaism and irrational belief in one's own infallibility, so that your account of the incident should be followed.

Your line of thinking is victim of the recent very un-British disease, which has struck Thatcherite Britain, which combines all the above elements and, hence, it cannot be trusted either.

Yours sincerely,
Y. HITZOS,
22 Lvisia Street, SW6,
September 17.

should involve loss of "parity of esteem".

It is surely time to have a close look at this particular sacred cow, which has played a bigger part in the shaping of schools than the question of the most suitable education for the various types of pupil.

The result has often been institutions which failed to make full provision for the interests of either academic or non-academic types (e.g. inadequate foreign languages for the former and inadequate workshops for the latter). The exceptions have tended to be a few well planned, usually very large, comprehensives.

I am not suggesting the scrapping of the entire comprehensive system and a return to its predecessor. I would suggest, however, that it might be worth while to consider at least experimenting with a system like those of France and (interestingly, from the social angle) Hungary and some of the other East European countries where the pupils are educated to a certain age in the same schools but are thereafter allowed to opt (with the advice of teachers and parents) between schools of, respectively, a more academic or a more technical and vocational bent.

Yours faithfully,
V. C. C. SAUNDERS,
42 Templar Road, Oxford.

feel it has fumbled because it has not given value to these schools).

Given the Church's understanding of Creation and the fact that the Church of England is one of the largest owners of rural land, the Church might be expected to set an example in the use of the land and the deployment of appropriate agricultural methods, including the welfare of agricultural livestock. It has an obligation to be heard to speak on environmental issues on behalf of all living creatures who have no power in the countryside.

Finally, though the list could be much longer, the countryside is the favourite holiday resort of thousands of the city-dwellers to which Mr Longley's article refers. The rural church has a vital ministry to visitors to rural areas, a ministry which it has only just begun to grasp.

Yours faithfully,
IAN BECKWITH, Director,
Centre for the Study of Rural Society,
Bishop Grosseteste College,
Lincoln.

Rural custodians

From the Director of the Centre for the Study of Rural Society
Sir, While not wishing to distract attention from the main thrust of Mr Longley's article (September 19), it is by no means as certain as he maintains that the Church of England handles its rural mission with a sure touch. Here, too, are vast and also ancient buildings whose upkeep seems at times to have become the chief purpose of the local church. Apart from occasional feasts and festivals, the normal Sunday congregations struggle to maintain the worship of God across the vastness of the medieval buildings, using hymns and chants of a century ago in a style more appropriate to the resources of a cathedral setting.

While it may be true that a leaner and fitter church may emerge from the groupings of parishes in the countryside, it is not clear that it should give its attention. The Church in the countryside is the custodian on behalf of the community of a rich resource of village schools (a responsibility which some

the effort to manage six, 10, or even 17 separate churches and to ensure that the worship needs of each Sunday congregation are catered for in the form preferred - BCP, Series 2, Series 3, ASB (A or B), and English Missal.

Fascinated by the central place theories beloved of planners, the Church saw parish groupings, administered by teams of priests and parish workers, as the answer to its manpower situation. Not only were parishes thrown together without regard to the historic rivalries which would prevent them from ever combining (how many priests have been disheartened by the attempt to get two neighbouring country parishes to worship together under one roof?) but, in most cases, the teams which were to be the basis of these groups have been resolved into one man.

On top of this there is no shortage of rural issues to which the Church should give its attention. The Church in the countryside is the custodian on behalf of the community of a rich resource of village schools (a responsibility which some

THE ARTS

Cinema

Bountiful vision of a beleaguered romance



Always alone: Lili Monori and Miklos Szekely in 'Forbidden Relations'

Forbidden Relations (18) Gate Bloomsbury

Olivia (PG) Rio

Something Wicked This Way Comes (PG) Odeon Haymarket

Without a Trace (15) Studio Oxford Street; Cincuenta Panton Street

Films about incest have been rare: the only ones that spring to mind are Melville's adaptation of Cocteau's Les Enfants Terribles...

unable to comprehend it, they set up house together. Fodor, once a drunk and womanizer, reforms and becomes a loving husband and (when Juli bears a child) father. He is sent to prison. On his release they resume the relationship...

The strength of Kezdi-Kovacs's film is that it is about people, not issues - a love story rather than a case history. Having fallen in love in innocence, the couple cannot now feel guilt just because they are supposed to do so.

They are helplessly, beautifully, in love. There is the amour fou idealized by the Surrealists. They cannot help themselves. Wherever they are, in the fields or the ramshackle nest they have built themselves, they tear at each other in cheerful, unrestrained passion, oblivious of all else. For the most part the rest of the community is tolerant, even concerned to help. The exceptions are their mother, tortured by a confusion of religious and social proprieties, and the local doctor, less troubled by medical considerations than by quasi-religious prejudices.

Lovers are always alone in the wild. The awful isolation of these two is emphasized by Kezdi-Kovacs's images (his cinematographer is Janos Kado, best known for his work with Jancso). As the sit among the industrial detritus on the banks of a vast river, or wander through a hard-frozen new town deserted for a holiday, they seem lonelier even than in their separate prisons.

The determined lovers are played by Miklos Szekely, a wiry, wary little man, and Lili Monori, the sensual actress in contemporary cinema whose first major role was in another Kezdi-Kovacs film, When Joseph Returns. Monori is so beautiful, she has a peculiarly becoming way of twisting up her mouth and her eyes, but she has an extraordinary ability to imply both death and desirability. Her gift for characters of instinct and feeling should not obscure her real skill and subtlety as an actress.

The film boasts a no less remarkable performance by Mari Torocsik, a section of the slow movement became a finely balanced piece of chamber playing, with the viola and cello duet leading back to the full-strings recapitulation with a mastery of proportion. A word, too, for Jonathan Snowden's fine, chill flute solo in the finale.

RPO/Dorati Festival Hall

When Antal Dorati turned his back on his old orchestra, to conduct a stubbornly mute audience in an exuberant National Anthem, the start of the Royal Philharmonic's season seemed, in its own way, every bit as characteristic as each orchestra's opening concert has been so far. And the three swashbuckling Dvorak Slavonic Dances that followed, as if from the end of the pier, seemed indicative, too, of a season which is obviously out to woo the hearts and the purses of a benignly smiling public.

But it was above all sturdy, enduring virtues that characterized an evening which culminated in a Brahms Fourth Symphony of single-minded direction and cumulative might. It was a reading of confirmation and affirmation, rather than of seeking and finding: the RPO's strings, as full-bodied and resilient in ensemble as I have ever heard them, were never tempted to luxuriate, nor the wind to contrived questioning. The most testing central

work, or else it does not him; for it seems to toughen his super-refinement just as he in turn digs deep for its treasure, muting any bravura elements and drawing out the enery of shape and idea. His keen, sweet tone for instance pays minute attention to the individual orchestral solos leading to the first movement's recapitulation, and provides a newly head cutting edge for each return to the Rondo.

Hilary Finch

Advertisement for Jules Massenet's Werther at the Royal Opera House, featuring conductor Jacques Delacôte and cast members Yvonne Minton and Giacomo Aragall. Dates: October 3, 8, 11, 14, 18 at 7.30 pm. Reservations: 01-240 1066.

Concerts

Jean-Louis Steuerman Queen Elizabeth Hall

You can forget all that stuff in the French press about "a new Glenn Gould", but Jean-Louis Steuerman ought certainly to be heard. He has vitality and confidence, and his playing on Wednesday evening suggested that he is on his way to a quite individual style of interpretation.

Greatly daring for a pianist, these days, he devoted the first half to Bach. The Preambulum of Partita No 5 was properly treated as a display piece, its darting lines informed with engaging rhythmic drive. In odd contrast, the Corrente was dispatched as a mere finger exercise, yet the Allemand was shaped with real melodic perception and there were some beautiful shadings in the Sarabande. Mr Steuerman needs to think more, however, about the dance basis of these movements.

Obviously it was a mistake to play two Partitas in the same programme, but the substantial opening Toccata of No 6 was given just enough declamatory feeling and sounded just sufficiently like an improvisation. Here the Corrente was much better; the Allemand, Air and Sarabande were strikingly expressive. This was a good preparation for the different worlds memorably visited after the interval.

Mr Steuerman reappeared through with another Toccata, Schumann's Op 7. Here the furious manual activity always served a musical purpose and the brief strands of melody that managed to survive amid the composer's unrelenting pattern-making were all duly identified and brought forward.

Beethoven's Tristram-esque Sonata, Op 10 met with an equally positive response, one that in its myriad nuances followed on from the Sarabande's expressiveness. Mr Steuerman showed himself a free citizen, too, of the acrid world of Scriabin's Sonata No 5. Yet he should eliminate, because he does not need, his present affected gestures, for example his nose should be held at least another couple of inches away from the keys.

Max Harrison

Hilary Finch meets Jessye Norman

Jessye Norman (right), who has waited until this week to make her Met debut

Perfecting patience

Ten years ago, a new production of Les Troyens came to the Met at the time of Kubelik's proposed takeover. It played for only one part of one season. This autumn it has returned, restaged and recast with Fabrizio Milano, and with it, as both Cassandra and Dido, Jessye Norman makes her house debut and returns to the operatic stage after nearly five years away.

It was as Cassandra that she made her Covent Garden debut in 1972 ("Troy falls, Norman conquers", quipped one headline), the same year as her La Scala debut in Aida. But for the most part of the late 1970s Jessye Norman withdrew from opera to develop her recital career. Why?

"Well, as long as seven years ago I'd had enough experience to know what I didn't want to do, and that was all those things that are wanted by opera houses all over the world: They need high-voice, dramatic sopranos, and they're willing to try to make one out of anybody. I knew I liked communicating with an audience in this way, and that I'd like to be able to do it for a long time. And I can't think that I'd agreed to sing Gioconda and Trovatore at 26 or 27 that I'd be agreed to speak about it now. My voice, and I know each other pretty well, you know."

So, the Met has had to wait for Jessye Norman from Georgia. "There didn't seem any real rush - I'm just not in a great hurry about things. I decided a long time ago that for any opera house it would have to be the right role at the right time and place. Now Dido and Cassandra is something I really want to do."

She has used the intervening years since her first Cassandra to explore, in her characteristically thorough and meticulous way, the broader world of French music. I spoke to her during her time as Phèdre at Aix-en-Provence's Hippolyte et Aricie, an opera which has deepened her insight into Berlioz himself. "Both Rameau and Berlioz set their texts so beautifully - studying both in depth has been quite inspirational. And both are such wonderful dramatists, giving character her own special music, years before Wagner's definitive ideas. As with Phèdre, so with Dido. The game is up from the beginning, but she has to go through with it and Dido's is a majestic, queenly torment, if I can put it that way. As for Cassandra, she has only two arias, and the rest is splutterings, which fits so exactly her own visionary mental torment."

Cassandra was particularly close to the heart of Berlioz. "O ma ooble Cassandre, mon héroïque vierge!", he wrote at

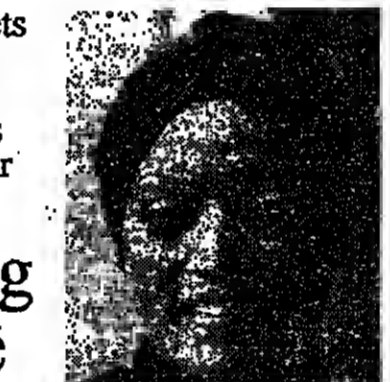
Advertisement for Queen's Theatre featuring Penelope Keith in 'The Leopard' by Noel Coward. Dates: October 21. Opens Oct 25. Tel: 01-734 1166.

since he made The Great Gatsby before that he had made only five films since Room at the Top in 1959. Now he turns up in Vermont, as director of an adaptation of Ray Bradbury's novel Something Wicked This Way Comes, produced by Walt Disney. It is a very tricky undertaking. The story is an elusive Faustian fable about a carnival where the deepest desires of the patrons are fulfilled, but at the price of becoming exhibits in the waxwork show run by the Mephistophelean proprietor Mr Dark (Jonathan Pryce). All this is witnessed by two small boys who both have parental problems - one with a father too old to make close contact with his son; the other with a runaway father and feckless mother. Somehow (and Ray Bradbury's own script fails to make the connexion between the themes) that the boys witness in the carnival brings them to better self-understanding.

The production is costly and finely designed by Richard McDonald; and the special effects are elaborate. Somehow though all this and the spooky music seem more suited to a conventional horror film than to this rather fey parable. The expectations aroused are confused and conflicting, and certainly never gratified. We are left with some striking set pieces. Like the arrival of the train in the middle of the night or the whirlwind which finally carries off the carnival of evil: and one performance, by Jason Robards, which strives to come to some resolution of the central theme of aging and regret.

Without a Trace, with its story of the abduction of a seven-year-old boy, touches a subject of current popular concern; and the determinedly unemotional playing of Kate Nelligan as the mother, and the realistic picture of police procedures (if you accept that the New York police would really dedicate such manpower to the case), at first promise a documentary interest. Gradually awareness of the emotional tricks being played - the false trails, false alarms and such manipulations as the problems of the patient cop with his own child - build up, until the shamelessly concocted tear-jerking finale.

David Robinson



the time of the ill-fated Paris premiere of Les Troyens. How has the character changed for Miss Norman since Covent Garden in 1972? "Oh, immensely. I'd sung three or four pages of Berlioz then, and now I've sung most of what there is - Clopatre, Les Nuits d'été, Faust, Romeo et Juliette. And I'm so grateful this time to be able to sing the role in French. For me, that's really necessary. And I don't think actually that we need to spoon-feed audiences as much as we might imagine. If the singer is completely convinced and absorbed, the audience will be there."

"Jimmy Levine is such a great help - just like Colin Davis, he's so interested in the physical aspect of singing (and they both sing a little themselves, you know: I mean it's not like the sounds that can come from some conductors)". Dido's Aeneas is Plácido Domingo, with whom Miss Norman sang in Aida at La Scala and Beethoven Nine with Bolm three years ago. "We meet a lot at airports, but don't often have the chance to work together. That'll be nice, you know. And so nice too to work with Tatiana Troyanos, who I love, and who'll be Dido and Cassandra as well."

Meanwhile, the song repertoire continues, with a new release from Philips next month of Stravinsky's Four Last Songs with the Leipzig Gewandhaus and Masur. "For most singers they are an petit montage and I am very glad to have started, at least, my climb. It's a very special record for me. I hope people will like it." With a quite different weight and colour of voice from Elisabeth Soderstrom, Kiri Te Kanawa or Lucia Popp in recent recordings, Miss Norman's is likely to remind listeners if anything of that very first Flagstad performance. "Yes, I know we have a lot of competition, but that's all right."

Her operatic career is now well set on its way, with Jocasta in Oedipus Rex next February at the Met, and an Ariadne that she was Phèdre's sister, you know; I love these wonderful Greek women - they suit me so much better than Puccini's". And then two Medceas in Lyon in October next year, Charpentier's and a new one by Gavin Bryars, to be directed side by side by Robert Wilson.

Miss Norman looks forward to operetta, too: La Belle Hélène, perhaps a Merry Widow, perhaps Fledermaus. And what about the Wagner that people keep speculating about? "Well, exactly. But, you know, they were saying the same thing when I was 26. Well, it's a bit closer now. I'm going to try to do Isolde in concert version in 1986 in Vienna with Zagrosek, the whole thing. We'll see how it goes..."

Television

Computing cracks

It seems there are new industries coming through and one of them, growing apace, is Computer crime. Thames's TV Eye, produced by Alan Stewart with Peter Frendergast reporting, took a quite coartaining look at it last night.

A computer security expert - an ancillary industry which also appears to have a promising future - estimated that sharp operators with a mathematical bent were creaming off more than £100 m, a year in Britain. This might, he said, be only the tip of the iceberg because victims tended to be the kind of people who would not want a breach to their security hushed about.

One case described was that of a bank employee who had access to a master tape and therefore to his and everyone else's account. He transferred £189 to his to pay off a credit card bill, £1,500 to a friend's account, then, growing bolder, £12,000 to another friend's. The last was over-ambitious for the system demanded a document he did not know about. He got nine months in Borstal to calculate his future.

Then there was the Scots clerk, short after a heavy Christmas. He created five bank accounts in fictitious names and the bank computer paid expenses to each. Computers, he reflected, after serving 18

months in prison, were "very useful things".

A computer science student, formerly at Stirling University, told how he had gained access to the university computer and to everything about that institution, including a forthcoming examination paper. To evade detection through over-use, he created five new identities for himself. Finally, he owned up but, he said, the system "will always be open to someone with a bit of intelligence and know-how".

Access is not only for theft but to damage. A woman director in a car parts business told how someone had programmed "time bombs" into her computer to go off at intervals, destroying files and invoicing records. The business went bankrupt. Banks, other users and manufacturers are alert to this vulnerability and are developing stringent precautions. Presumably, crooks are mugging up too.

We saw members of the West Midlands Fraud Squad back at school learning about the bewildering new permutations of crime. One asked what he should take into custody if he discovered a crime? Nothing, it seemed. Just leave everything as it was. Well, that has not changed, anyhow.

Dennis Hackett

Opera

Exuberant carnival

Griselda Sadler's Wells

All the lofty aspirations of opera seria have been banished by the Buxton Festival Opera in their production of Vivaldi's Griselda, reviewed from their home territory on this page by Hilary Finch and now brought to London together with Gounod's La Colombe.

It is the company's first season in the capital, but it is the second time that Griselda has been heard here. The English Bach Festival were the pioneers with their concert performance five years ago. Then we did not have the benefit of the comic intermezzi provided this time by The Madrigal Show to lighten the conventionally drab plot. In fact in this production the pantomime, intended to serve also as a device for establishing time and place, threatens to dominate rather too much. Johnny Ball leads his troupe through some endearing tomfoolery between the acts providing a patter of painfully corny jokes with perfect timing.

Today, just as in 1735, when the opera was first performed in Venice, audiences applaud not the story but the arias. It does not matter that the source of the text goes back to Boccaccio's The Decamerone. Goldoni's libretto includes enough baroque embellishment of what was originally a simple story, with his sub-plots of unrequited love and confused identity, to

disguise the original beyond recognition. But just in case we should get confused the recitative is sung in English, while the spectacle of Vivaldi's coloratura writing remains unspoil by the hindrance of translation.

Vivaldi provides recitative which is mainly functional, except for a purple passage in Act II where Ottone, who suffers unsatisfied amorous pangs for Griselda, threatens to murder her son. It is delivered with about the right emphasis and pacing, leaving space for the arias to be sung with varying degrees of aplomb. Tamara Takacs as Griselda sounds rather strained at the top of her register, but otherwise provides some fruity sounds. Anthony Godler is more erratic as Gualtero, though he compensates for occasional flatness with his vivid melodramatic acting. Paula Scalerà's Costanza has some delightfully spectacular moments, as does Phyllis Cannan's Ottone, but Robin Martin-Oliver's Roberto is rather coarse; the part lies dangerously high for a counter-tenor.

Malcolm Fraser's production has travelled well, although I am unconvinced by the symbolic menagerie of a rabbit and a falcon which appears in Act II. The sets look magnificent, and the whole evening becomes something of an exuberant carnival under Anthony Hose's conducting. Further performances take place tonight and tomorrow.

Stephen Pettitt

Advertisement for the film 'We of the Never Never' at the GDSBON KENSINGTON. Includes quotes: 'IF YOU LIKED MY BRILLIANT CAREER THIS IS CERTAINLY FOR YOU... BEAUTIFULLY FILMED', 'AN INTELLIGENT FILM OF HAUNTING BEAUTY... BREATHTAKING', 'MAGNIFICENT... A DISTINGUISHED MOVIE'.

Advertisement for the National Theatre from October 3 to 8. Listings include: 'The Hyper-sensational' award-winning musical GUYS AND DOLLS; 'Glorious' (8 Times) THE RIVALS; 'The best play in London' (Observer) GLENGARRY GLEN ROSS; 'A magnificent production' (Guardian) A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM; 'Superbly plotted comedy' (Times) TAKE IT WITH YOU; 'Exuberant comedy of low life' (Time Out) THE BEGGAR'S OPERA; 'Hart & Kaufman's famous YOU CAN'T TAKE IT WITH YOU'.

Handwritten text in a box at the top of the page.



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The Orion is available as a GL, Ghia or Ghia with fuel injection. The latter is designed for the driver who likes his luxury combined with speed. (It will reach 116 mph and accelerate to 60 mph from rest in only 8.6 seconds!)

But let's look round the model that's most typical of the range: the Ghia.

Like much classical design it has a certain economy of line.

There is no unnecessary decoration. It doesn't need any. Its beauty is that everything is strictly functional. The bumpers, for instance, are made of light-weight polycarbonate which springs back into shape after minor knocks.

When you open the door, the first thing you notice is that air of calm that comes from cat pile carpet and tasteful cloth upholstery. You're back in civilisation.

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The dashboard bristles with switches and warning lights for everything from low windscreen washer fluid and oil levels to worn disc brake pads. So you seldom need to open the bonnet.

Then there's the ventilation system. This doesn't just keep you warm, it keeps you fresh too. Because it supplies cooler air to your face than your feet.

And such is the attention to sound deadening that even the holes that carry wiring from the engine compartment into the car are sealed against noise.

Here's another novel feature. The radio

aerial is built into the back window, which is bad news for vandals because there's nothing for them to break off. Signals are actually received by the heating elements in the glass.

A stereo radio cassette with four speakers and a 'joystick' balance control is standard. So are central locking, a sun roof which tilts or slides, electric front windows and tinted glass.

As for your passengers, we don't treat them like second class citizens. The front passenger's seat has an adjustable lumbar support just like the driver's. And one of the best features of the Orion is the way you can stretch out in the back. There is more leg room, knee room and head

room than in any car in its class. Not only that, but efficient use of space has enabled us to recline the back seat to a comfortable 27 degrees, so you can really sit back and enjoy the ride. It makes all the difference after an hour or two on the road.

Such thoughtful touches as an illuminated vanity mirror, delayed action courtesy lights and seat back map pockets are all standard in the Ghia. So are the rear seat head rests.

Luggage space? The Orion's boot, which incidentally has a remote control release, is huge (13.5 cu ft). Not only that, but two hatches

in the back seat fold down. (They're split 60/40.) So if you have to carry something large and awkward, a double bass for instance, you can push it through. It's the next best thing to having a hatchback.

Now let's look under the bonnet. You've a choice of engines, 1.3 or 1.6 litres in the GL and 1.6 or 1.6 with fuel injection in the Ghia.

These are the proven CVH engines, over a million of which are already on the road. The engines are, of course, mounted transversely and drive the front wheels, which partly explains why there's so much space inside the Orion in spite of its compact dimensions. It's the ideal layout for a car this size.

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The figures†† in the table speak for its efficiency.

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You've also a choice of gearboxes. A 5-speed manual is optional with the 1.3 litre engine and standard with the 1.6 and 1.6i. While the automatic is an option with the 1.6. It's another engineering breakthrough, in that it features a mechanical by-pass which gradually takes over from the hydraulic drive as your speed rises.

This accounts for the remarkable fuel efficiency of even the automatic Orion††

Suspension? Predictably it's all independent. As befits the character of the car we've tuned it for comfort. But, although this means it's quite soft, there's very little body roll.

The 1.6i Ghia is set up rather more firmly with a rear anti-roll bar and gas-filled shock absorbers. So it handles more like the latest Escort XR3i.

You can see the new Ford Orion at your local Ford dealer now. We think you'll agree, it's a modern classic.

*Standard with 1.6 engines, optional with 1.3.

†Ford computed figures.

Car illustrated has optional metallic paint and rear seat belts.



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FORD ORION 

British Institute of Management

The present upturn in the economy presents an opportunity and challenge for managements. We examine the unique role of the BIM in providing both the voice and support for the nation's managers.

It is an inconvenient but unavoidable fact that Britain boasts in the British Institute of Management the largest organization of its kind in the world, but suffers, and has suffered for over 30 years from a savage decline in industrial competitiveness and efficiency.

It is true too, that the BIM, which today has more than 70,000 members, has always been clear sighted in what it sought to achieve. Its annual report says it aims "to advance, by means of education, information and representation, the highest achievable levels of managerial professional qualification and practice within the United Kingdom," a message which has its roots quite firmly in the foundation of the institute in the early post war period.

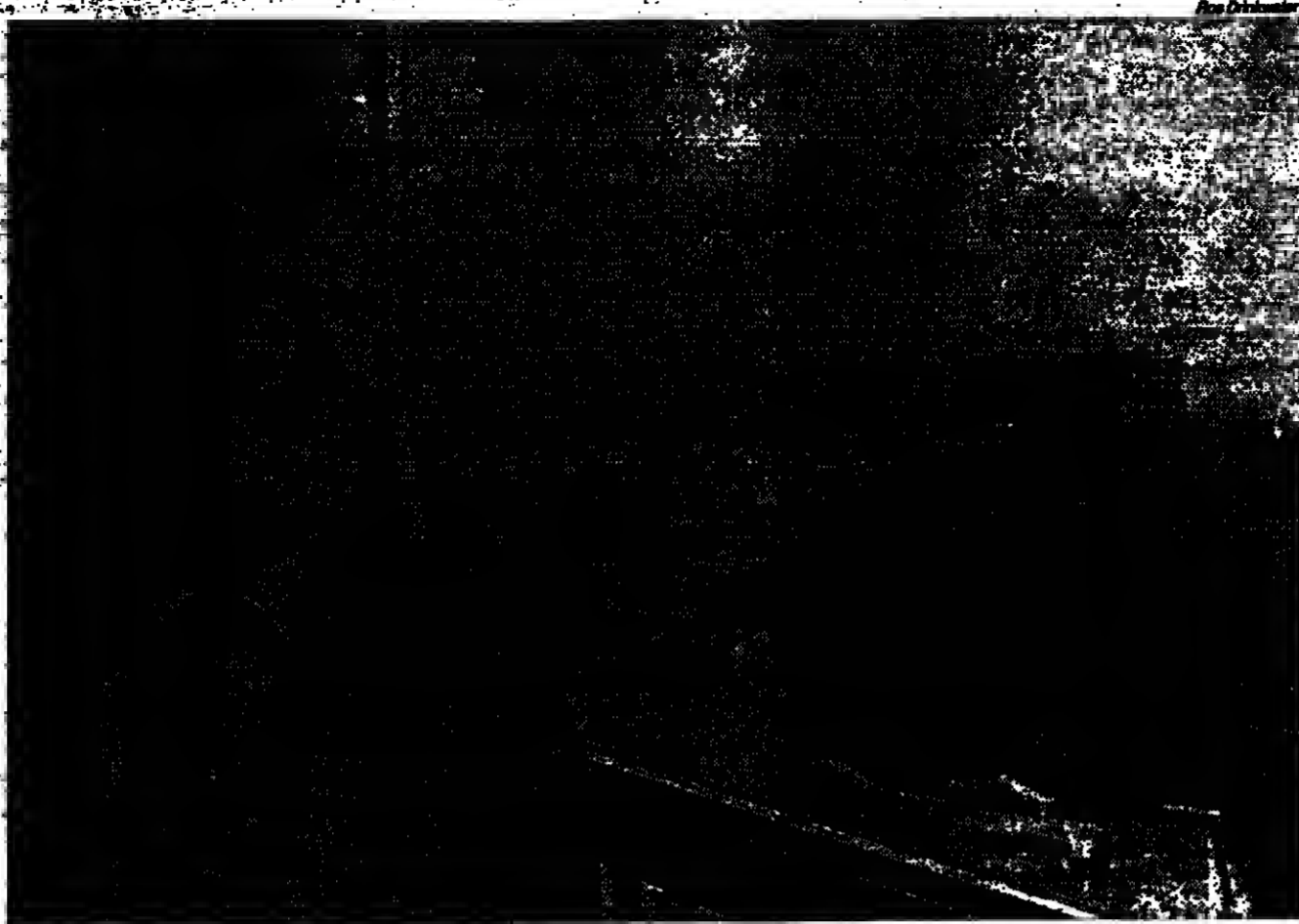
One might expect, given the sad reality of Britain's industrial performance during the lifetime of the BIM, to find a defeated and demoralized organisation. But the BIM is flourishing, and its director general Mr Roy Close takes criticism of Britain's industrial performance in his stride. There are two things critics need to remember, he says. First, no one can tell how much worse this country's performance might have been if the BIM had not existed.

distribution and services, we have successfully coped with major changes in the pattern of our trade and, in particular, we have switched from trading with the Commonwealth with its specific markets to trading with Europe, and its quite different market requirements.

All that is true, and convincing too when forcefully argued by Mr Close. But it is also true that down the years the BIM has tended to be overshadowed by the Confederation of British Industry, and more recently the Institute of Directors. There exists in the public mind a feeling that it is somehow unnecessary, or even superfluous.

From its founding days until the mid 1970s this feeling was less marked if only because the BIM was then solely an educational organisation and, as such, was concerned solely with the needs of its members. But in the mid 1970s successive bouts of pay restraint and the social contract between the then Labour Government and the trade unions led to a major change of direction. Basically Britain's managers felt they were unappreciated. They were losing status.

There was no doubt that a large slice of the membership was looking then for a B.U.M. - a British Union of Managers - but that is not what they got. What did happen was that the BIM, after various constitutional changes and much heart searching did set out to represent "the view of management" in Whitehall, to the civil service, government and opposition alike.



Roy Close, director general of the BIM: taking criticism in his stride

generation of publicity by the Institute of Directors. The BIM in contrast, because its members cover every conceivable shade of political opinion has to move cautiously. All its submissions are put together only after exhaustive consultation with its nationwide network of branches. Perhaps as a result their sweet reasonableness, which delights their supporters, seems simply anodyne to the critics.

But after several years of struggle the BIM can now claim considerable success. It is now part of the regular consultative circuit of government, and as much as governments listen to anyone on industrial and economic matters they appear to respond to the dripping tap, the consistent pressure on carefully selected topics, which the BIM feels are within its province.

All this has its price however, and the combination of increased activity and high inflation has left the BIM facing a series of cash crises - not all together dissimilar from those

which seemed to afflict industry proper. The response has been twofold; first a successful drive to expand membership, and second the decision to move a substantial proportion of its services out of central London. Roughly a third of the BIM staff have transferred to Corby, Northants, and a further one-third are following. Head office will remain in London, but costs have been dramatically curtailed.

Improved viability has also led to increased vitality. In recent months the BIM has launched a series of initiatives to bring greater benefits from its core of expertise - the most notable being the launch of a computer bureau in partnership with PE International, and a joint venture with Professional Publishing Ltd, part of the Thompson Organization, which should lead to the commercial publication of much more of the BIM's in-house manuals, research and advice.

One difficulty is that it is difficult to know why people join an institute like the BIM.

True the British love institutes and a slice of the membership presumably wants nothing more when unemployment is high than to have the initials after their name. A further slice are undoubtedly attracted by the monthly magazine, *Management Today* produced for the BIM by Haymarket Publishing, and others by the forum the BIM provides through its regional branches to meet other managers and discuss specific management problems.

But the strengths and weaknesses of the BIM cannot realistically be separated from the society in which it operates. When society as a whole was against the pursuit of profit as the only goal for a manager then it was unrealistic for the BIM to try to pursue this line. But as attitudes change, and the need for a healthy and profitable industrial sector becomes more widely appreciated, then the BIM can press harder the cause of efficiency.

Anthony Hilton
City Editor

Pulling in the brighter pupils

One of the great problems faced by instructors in business management in Britain is that too many people do not take the subject seriously. While a child at school may legitimately aspire to become a member of the legal, medical or accountancy professions, and would probably be encouraged to do so by parents and teachers, he would receive no such support if he selected management as a career. It is clearly not a profession in the accepted sense - nor indeed should it pretend to be, for management is about performance, getting results and

frustrating objectives: all things which are well down the list of professional priorities. But in consequence management education is invariably treated as either a "poor relation" or as an irrelevance - an attempt to put a veneer of respectability on to what is often still thought to be a down-to-earth trade best learnt on the job.

The British Institute of Management is trying, as part of a long-term project, to get schools to think differently about management, and to encourage more of the brighter pupils to choose it, rather than drift into it as a career. But this is a task which involves much educating of the educators and which is made only a little less daunting by the recent introduction of computer-based management games and competitions for sixth-formers.

But the bulk of management education takes place after the classroom has been left years behind, and it is here that the BIM has played its most significant role. Because education was the main reason for its creation, it is a natural corollary that today there is hardly any educational board or lobby in which the BIM is not involved. What the BIM thinks of management education is therefore a strong influence on decision-making bodies throughout the country.

The BIM has two great assets in fulfilling this role. First, it is not an examining body, having discontinued that function more than 20 years ago, and can therefore criticize courses arranged by other bodies without being accused of having an axe to grind.

Second, its membership includes people from other walks of life than industry and commerce, in which there are no managers so-called - the police, the church, the armed services and, of course, the educational institutions themselves. This diversity of background strengthens the interest of the members in the essentials of management. As a result a constant flow of information, ideas and suggestions comes from the branches and from the seminars and courses the BIM runs on its own account.

Complaints about management education tend to go in cycles. Mr John Wilson, director of the BIM's information and advisory services, says, "The period since 1979 has been fairly turbulent as the onset of recession increased dissatisfaction with the performance of

management in general, and with the way managers were trained - or, more often, not trained. But as the recession has eased so has the level of dissatisfaction.

There remains, however, the unresolved problem of making the courses fully relevant, to ensure that the student with little experience does not acquire a purely theoretical training and that the manager taking time out for a course does acquire the theoretical knowledge he needs to complement his practical experience. The obvious way ahead, in the BIM's view, is for more successful managers to take time out to teach, "as they do in North America and in the forces here, where it is taken for granted that a good officer also has to be a good teacher," Mr Wilson says.

Students now more aware

Lobbying is inevitably a slow process but Mr Wilson can point to some notable successes. One problem the BIM identified was that students pursuing a specific training, such as a branch of engineering, almost invariably, unless they were exceptionally brilliant in their chosen discipline, finished up in management. But while they learnt a great deal about engineering they learnt virtually nothing about management. Now, however, curricula are being amended to include at least an awareness of management; it may not be entirely what the BIM would like to see in every instance, but it is certainly progress.

In the areas it can influence directly, it has also taken some notable initiatives, the most widely praised being the programme of boardroom seminars in which a few senior executives get together for intensive discussion of specific problems - often with civil servants or other senior "outsiders" in attendance. The results are of course confidential but participants in the programme speak highly of its value.

As a result of these and other initiatives, Mr Wilson is happy with the broad direction of management education, but is far from happy with its overall impact. He points out that there are still far too few managers who have received sufficient formal training, and hundreds of thousands of them who have received none at all. AH

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Managers among the best, and bravest

British middle managers today are among the best in the world. Better educated than their predecessors, they are also better equipped for the tasks ahead as a result of being "tempered by the fires of recession".

This is the consensus view from a selection of the many distinguished captains of industry whose active involvement with the institute is one of the most impressive aspects of the BIM.

"Our best operation is run by an Englishman appointed by local management in Germany," says Sir Trevor Holdsworth, chairman of Guest Keen & Nettlefolds and vice-president of BIM. British managers not only have considerable innate ability but they have also had to learn flexibility, adds Sir Trevor, whose own favourite motto has become "True wisdom lies in the masterful administration of the unforeseen".

A shake-out of administration layers means that middle managers now have to be given much more freedom. In order to exercise this scope for action wisely, Sir Trevor's advice to all grades of management is to "remember that training needs to be continuous". "It is no good going to business school for a year and thinking, 'that's it'."

British managers have served their country well during the worst recession experienced recently, but no one is ever sufficiently prepared for change, believes Mr Lawrence Tindale, deputy chairman of Finance for Industry and chairman of BIM.

He feels that we probably still lag behind Japan and the United States in our managers' knowledge of new developments in technology and a lot of self-education is needed if they are to forge ahead.

"The modern generation of middle managers has learned

that, with an educated labour force and a sophisticated market, the true role of leadership is to do with articulate communication. It is not simply a matter of passing messages down to the shop floor," commented Mr Deryk Vander Weyer, who takes over the deputy chairmanship of British Telecom on October 1. "The older generation was rather authoritarian in the hierarchical sense and were not good communicators with either their customers or their labour force," he says.

Need for courage and personality

The most difficult thing to learn, he believes, relates to the implementation of decisions. "It is not usually very difficult to see the route you should go," he says. "The difficult thing is firstly to have the courage to implement a sound decision, and secondly to have the personality and character to persuade other people to go along with it."

The recessionary climate up to now has made it difficult for middle managers to be commercially innovative, says Mr Weyer, who is chairman of BIM's Board of Companions—an inner circle of senior business leaders.

"They have tended to get trapped between trade union demands on the one hand, and the desires of boards of directors to compromise for the sake of a quiet life on the other," Mr Weyer believes that managers may need to learn how to take risks in the entrepreneurial sense if they are to meet the challenge of the promised economic upturn successfully.

Mr Robert Horton, chairman and managing director of BP Chemicals, has some doubts as to whether the present gener-



Sir Austin Bide: management starts with the chargehand: above from the left: Sir Trevor Holdsworth, Lawrence Tindale, Deryk Vander Weyer and Roger Hurn.

ation of managers has sufficiently adapted to technological change. He points out that very few managers have been taught about new technology needed by companies at school or university. Like doctors, lawyers or other professionals, managers should make sure they regularly read relevant books and journals to keep ahead of new trends and developments, he believes.

Sir Austin Bide, the chairman of Glaxo who also became non-executive chairman of BL last year, also emphasises the need for greater professionalism in management. Sir Austin, who holds the BIM Gold Medal in recognition of outstanding achievements in the management of the Glaxo Group, believes that management starts with the charge-hand. "The gifted amateur was very useful once, but life in business is now very complex, very specialized

and needs a professional approach," he says. He points out that busy executives who "have their hands full looking after the shop" will have little time to go on training courses. However, Sir Austin's advice to any middle manager would be to "get yourself absolutely prepared to do the thing properly—identify the most meaningful element of your particular job and keep in touch with it as closely as you can".

Mr Roger Hurn, chief executive and managing director of Smith Industries, believes that managers have become "not only tougher and leaner but they have shown quite exceptional dedication during periods of great difficulty". But an economic upturn would require a switch of attitude, away from constantly seeking cost savings.

Patricia Tisdall

The British Institute of Management's Information and Advisory Service provides its 70,000 members with one of its original and most important functions—education on management techniques. The library, as the BIM's service is known, inherited a collection of work on management from the Institute of Industrial Information which had been set up at the turn of the century. Sir Clive Baillieu headed the Board of Trade committee which established the new Institute and its library in 1947. The library boasts the oldest collection of management literature in the country and probably in the English-speaking world outside the United States.

The library still serves the first tenets of the BIM, to develop management as an art and a science, to improve training of managers, and make research and publications easily

Not just a business, more an art

available. The library prides itself on its early insistence that management was to be regarded as an art, and not just an adjunct to business and commerce—and the subsequent developments have reinforced that it was right. Although the literature was weighted towards manufacturing and industry in its first years, the development of new technology and the widening of the BIM's membership has been reflected in the library's contents.

Now the retailing and service industries, including hotel and catering, food, drink and tobacco, are represented as well as paper, printing and publishing, local government, education and the public utilities. Members also include the education profession, trade unions and government departments and the traditional industries and large companies.

Education is a new focus of management principles, the growth of comprehensive schools have brought headmasters and headmistresses into the BIM to study new ways of organizing and managing people. As the BIM points out: "Change and the rate of change are concepts with which every manager has had to become conversant over the last decade. Managers are being told from all sides that the environment in which they live is changing so drastically and so rapidly that those who were educated 20 years ago or more, unless they have taken deliberate steps to keep abreast of developments, may well be out of touch with the ideas and technology of the present day."

The needs of BIM members fall into seven main areas. The first is advice on corporate structure and control methods. Relocation, consumer law and taxation, consumer credit protection law and company legislation are all covered. Boardroom decisions and the role of directors are also issues which come up frequently. One

pollution and energy conservation. Although the information service cannot provide training on all these issues it can identify where an individual or company can seek training or further advice. In the main, research is free, although if a project involves many hours' work a small contribution is required to help defray costs.

More than half the queries answered by the library are on the management of people. Members seek for advice on methods of interviewing, recruiting and selecting staff and the development of skills within an organization. Communication with employees is also an important issue, while other members need help on incentive schemes and training opportunities.

Advice on financial management is often requested, particularly for organizations where the managers are not financially trained. In addition, there is a growing feeling that elaborate management information systems established in

the 1970s are not providing critical information at the right time and members are looking for simple, early indicators, particularly on cash flow. On the operational side, another perennial problem is stock control and the links between manufacturing research and distribution.

Sales and marketing policies come under constant scrutiny. The information centre can often point to existing research which can be bought at a reasonable cost and save groups from commissioning expensive surveys of their own. The library also maintains a large stock of information on the development of personal skills, management education and training schemes which is probably second to none.

The library maintains that its greatest strength is its collection of unpublished material, mainly of examples of management practice. About half the collection consists of 80,000 unpublished or semi-published works on themes ranging from performance appraisal, trading terms, policy manuals, procedures and case histories. Although the librarians hold management qualifications, they do not offer solutions to management problems. They give advice on how to find the right person, such as a lawyer, to give the correct answer.

The greatest use of the library is made by the BIM's 9,000 collective subscribers who may send any member of staff to use the services.

The BIM offers case studies in employee relations to members. In the last few years an increasing number of queries have been received on redundancy or threatened unemployment as well as sick leave and advice on company perks and relocation. For a more individual approach members are directed to the BIM's Careers Information Service, set up in 1981, which has been well used during the recession as managers consider new careers or setting up in business on their own. Counsellors are available for interviews for which there is a small charge and the BIM is increasingly offering young people in schools and colleges help on making a career decision.

Rosemary Unsworth

Bring in the workers

Has the recession meant the end of the concept that employees should influence company decisions? Optimistic industrial relations observers maintain that one of the benefits of the "born-again" managers of the 1980s is that greater self-confidence has made managers more receptive to advice. The pessimists' view is that industrial democracy is a lost cause for the time being, and that factory closures and general fear of unemployment has brought back an unacceptable level of autocratic control.

Greater employee participation was identified as a key issue for management in the mid-1970s. It was regarded then as "requirement, complementary to the increased commercial, technical and social skills needed for managing in the 1980s". The background to debates which led to the Bullock Commission report and the 1977 White Paper was not whether greater employee participation was desirable, but how best and how quickly it could be achieved. The chief objection raised by managers and employers to both the commission's report and the White Paper was not that there should be no extension of employee participation, but that it should be on a voluntary basis.

Since then the BIM has made continuous efforts to persuade its members that effective employee participation is in the interests of efficiency as well as the quality of life of the employees. Several reports have been produced "A management view", "The way ahead", "Participation, democracy and control", together with a code of practice, a management checklist and surveys on related subjects such as disclosure of information and profit-sharing.

Mr Roy Close, the BIM director-general, says "When I speak, I continually emphasize that this is something they must get on with".

A survey of subscriber companies with more than 1,000 employees carried out by the BIM in 1981 showed that nearly every respondent claimed to accept at least the concept of employee participation, so obviously the institute's efforts over the years have borne some fruit. Only five out of the 166 respondents saw no benefit at all. Another five saw theoretical benefits but believed they could not be put into practice. The remainder—some 96 per cent—saw substantial benefits in participation, if successfully managed, concerned mainly with improving industrial relations and corporate responsibility.

The BIM also asked companies to indicate the degree of participation which had actually been applied in their organizations such as joint decision-making, negotiation of decisions and consultation. Significantly, only 22 per cent identified joint decision-making as a method of participation. Moreover, fully half of these qualified their agreement with such words as "rarely", "very occasionally" or "where appropriate". Cross-analysis of the survey findings, the researchers concluded, "suggests that where joint decision-making takes place at company level, it appears to relate to joint trusteeship of pension schemes". At plant or division level, it appears to suggest involvement in work systems through briefing meetings. It was not interpreted by any respondent as board-level participation.

In terms of subject matter, companies were prepared to

impart information about the state of the order books and company objectives. However, the survey showed, they were most reluctant to give information about research, mergers or manpower projections.

Provision for financial participation by employees was also found to be comparatively limited. Only 56 per cent of the companies responding to the BIM survey had such schemes or planned to have them, and of these, 3 per cent specified that their schemes were for senior executives only.

The main obstacles to further progress on worker participation were identified as apathy among employees and unwillingness to share authority on the part of management. In addition, a majority of respondents identified unwillingness by unions to allow non-union employees either to be represented at all, or on the same council or committee as trade unionists.

Developments in employee participation have been considerably slower than the more advanced reformers of the mid 1970s would have wished. The change of government in 1979 led to the immediate abandonment of the proposed legislation proposed by the Bullock Commission. But legislation in some form is still considered to be a strong possibility. A clause on employee involvement has already been included in the 1982 Employment Act. This requires companies with 250 employees or more to describe in their annual reports actions taken to introduce or develop information-sharing, regular consultation, employee share-schemes, and "common awareness".

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Finding out with the high-fliers

In a series of residential seminars intended to help "Tomorrow's Leaders" launched this year by John Nicholls, director of management development at the BIM, has applied the old principle that leadership is best taught by example. The aim is to bring together a group of managers and a handful of captains of industry. A diet of intellectual exercises, added by "shadowing" each chief executive with an academic expert to provide both an introduction and a framework for particular topics.

Describing the idea, Dr Nicholls emphasizes the necessity to attract the highest calibre of both business leader and participants to these events. The seminars are designed for up to 25 participants who have a significant record of achievement, he says. "They will probably be 40 to 50 years old, already directors of substantial companies or heads of divisions in the top 1,000, and clearly destined for even higher things." Participation is confined to suitably qualified executives who have been specially nominated by companions of the Institute - an inner circle of senior industrialists whose own achievements have been recognized by their peers.

With an eye to the Institute's balance sheet, there is a charge of £1,500, which Dr Nicholls admits is more expensive than any course run previously by BIM. The fee, however, covers full accommodation for the week as well as tuition.

The key to the success of the idea lies with the choice of chief executive leaders and their willingness to co-operate. The "cast" for the first seminar, held at Nuneham Park, near Oxford in March could hardly have been more star-studded. It included Sir Michael Edwards, Mr Ian MacGregor, Sir Adrian Cadbury and Mr Robert Horton. Sir Michael (now chairman of Mercury Communications and who takes over as executive chairman of ICL next year) described his experiences at British Leyland; Mr Ian MacGregor (now chairman of the National Coal Board) read a paper about taking over a heritage of over-capacity and de-industrialization in a nationalized steel industry; Sir Adrian spoke on human relations in industry; and Mr Robert Horton, managing director of BP Chemicals, talked about the problems of British companies in a global context.

Once they had delivered their prepared papers, the industrialists, who had been chosen to illustrate successful management in a variety of conditions, took questions from the floor. "A remarkably candid exposure" was how one delegate, whose company prefers to keep a very low public profile, described the replies he received. "Although it is impossible to say whether or not I have been more effective as a result, it gave me the feeling that I have a better understanding of certain types of problems", he said.

Inspired with confidence

Mr Simon Davidson, controller for Africa, Middle East and West Europe for the Glaxo group, summed up the views of many of his fellow delegates when he said that the exchange "reinforced and amplified" his opinions about various aspects of management such as the necessity for senior executives to keep in touch with customers; or to "give managers room to make decisions".

Mr Neville Simms, director of Tarmac Construction, said it was "very confidence-boosting to see that leaders of this calibre were only men like the rest of us. They put across some very clear ideas which struck chords with many of the delegates".

people in the audience. It gave one confidence in cases where one was not quite sure whether or not to strike out in a particular direction. "One always has mixed feelings about courses of this type unless they are part of a structured management development programme." Mr Denis Long, assistant general manager of the Midland Bank said, "However I found it to be a tremendous experience. It is obviously important to any type of manager to have the opportunity to question captains of industry, some of whom are in the front line of crisis management".

As in most external management development courses those who took in the Nuneham Park seminar felt they had gained considerably from being able to exchange experiences with each other. Dr Nicholls, who co-ordinated the course, believes that the overall calibre of the delegates was close to his original specifications. They included managers from public authorities such as



Left: BIM's Management House in central London. Two-thirds of the staff are transferring to offices at Corby, Northants (above).



Star-studded cast: Sir Michael Edwards, Ian MacGregor, Sir Adrian Cadbury and Robert Horton.

North Thames Gas, the National Coal Board, British Rail, British Telecom, and representatives of a variety of industrial and commercial concerns. They were a number of job titles - including an assistant chief constable as well as managers, directors and managing directors.

The exchange of views was not confined to topics raised from the platform; delegates explained how they were tackling various aspects of their jobs. As Mr John Taylorson, head of catering services for British Airways, pointed out - such exchanges were useful in assessing how one structures one's own responsibility.

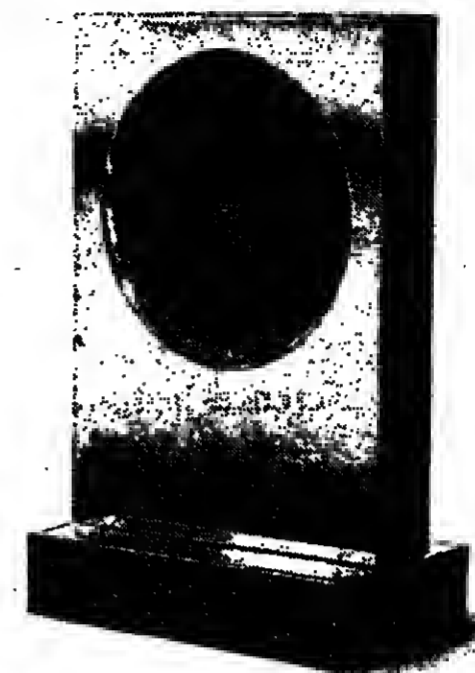
Mr Taylorson felt that the small numbers and comparatively relaxed atmosphere enabled him to get a "much clearer understanding of personalities and their different style of meeting objectives that would be obtained by other ways."

There were, of course many criticisms. Most people felt that

although the idea of "shadowing" key speakers with academics was good, in practice it did not always work. Some of the papers were felt to be too wordy and too far from the point. A rather physical management game was thought to be distracting and obtrusive. The criticisms however were felt to be minor. The general feeling, even six months after the event, was one of excitement.

The first of the "Tomorrow's Leaders" seminars obviously got the series, which are intended to run twice a year off to a good start. Dr Nicholls reports that a "very satisfactory" number of applications had been received for the second seminar, to be held at Hemingford Grey, Cambridge, in November. It will deal with strategies needed to bring various aspects of technology into the management structure. Once again notable chief executives and academics will meet a group of about 25 hand-picked delegates.

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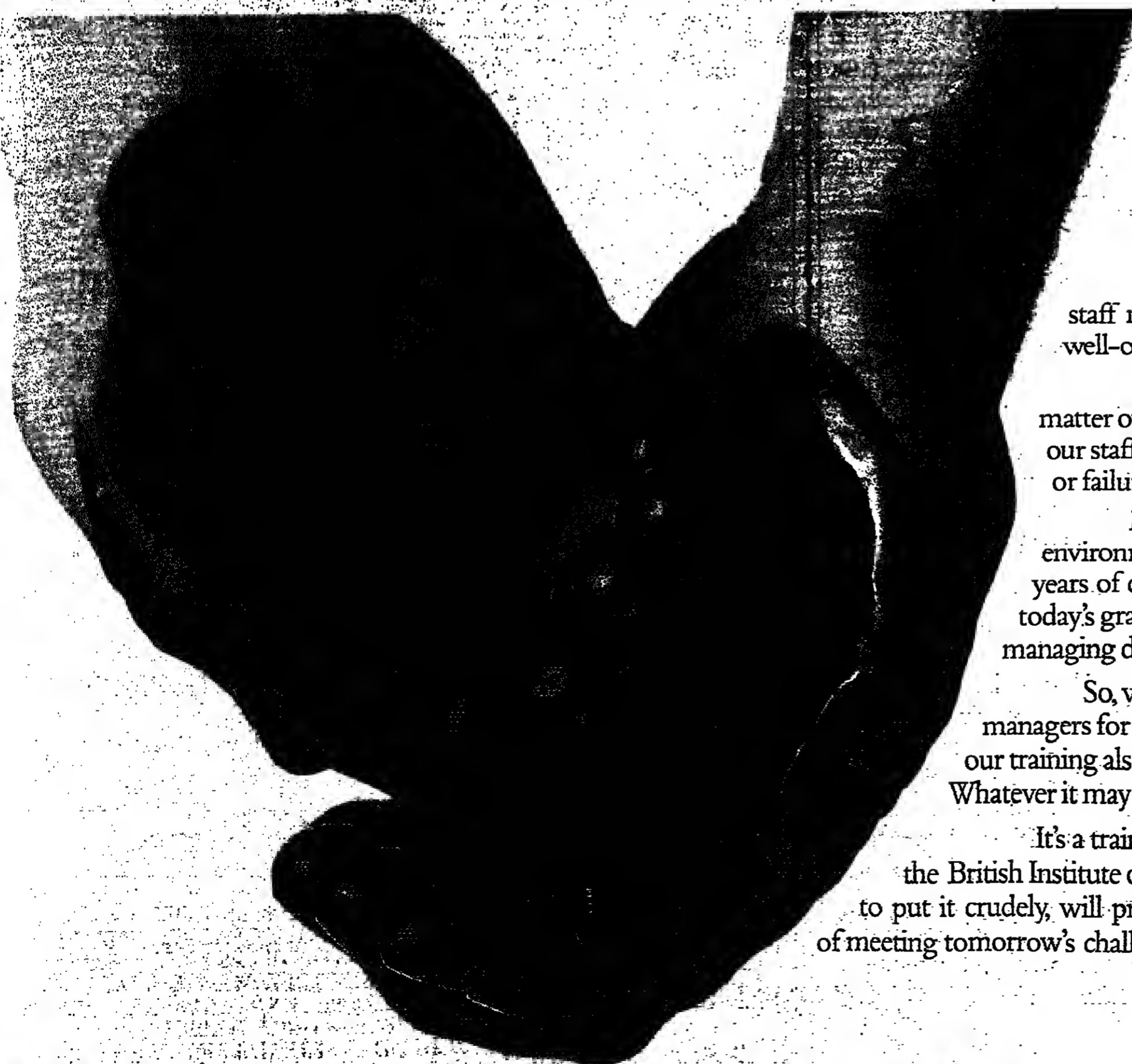
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Going back to school with the chairman

"I couldn't face looking silly in front of my junior colleagues," was the reason given by one participant. "I got fed up with not knowing what my son was talking about," said another. "I didn't tell anybody what I was doing, not even my secretary," commented a third. These remarks were made by managers on one of the British Institute of Management's courses to teach beginners about computers.

As we filed into the classroom we saw that it was edged by banks of micro-screens. Most of the participants were aged 45 and above, and were all pretty senior people, no regular course-goers. Around half the class of between 30 and 40 were of director rank or above; nine were chairmen, presidents, managing directors or senior partners. Their sponsoring organizations were not small either. They included household names like Letraset, Kodak, Johnson & Johnson, H. J. Heinz and the Abbey National Building Society, as well as a sprinkling of public bodies like the Ministry of Defence, a church diocese and the National Coal Board.

Making friends with micro

Well over 4,000 such managers have been through the BIM computer course - called "making friends with the Micro" - since it started in March 1979. To take the intensive two-day sessions the current price for BIM members is £225 (plus VAT), £350 (plus VAT) for non-members which covers tuition, equipment and materials, morning coffee, lunch and afternoon tea.

As well as promising to "cut through the jargon and remove the mystique", the literature says that half the time will be spent in "hands-on" activity. Sure enough, after a brief introduction we were divided into syndicates of three and set in front of our terminals. It was immediately apparent that a high proportion of people there had never touched a keyboard of any sort before - although



Close tuition on YDU's at the British Institute of Management 'school'

this became increasingly irksome. A lot of the managers found that although they had little difficulty in creating the programs they had to struggle to input them into the machine. The indications were that most would not persevere with doing this personally and would leave it to an operator if a screen were installed in their office.

The course ended with a very full resumé and demonstration of all the main microcomputers on the market, with a discussion of their advantages and disadvantages. Also extensively discussed were the merits or otherwise of packaged software.

The result seemed to give a thorough and practical grounding in elementary computer technology, a route through the minefield of jargon and equipment. Experienced help was available at every part of the learning process. The machines were installed and switched on, ready for use. In a class full of strangers there were no inhibitions about asking for assistance with elementary problems.

From the review forms completed at the end of the course it could be seen that everyone felt they had learnt something of value. But perhaps the most pervasive feeling was the immense self-satisfaction of winning at least a nodding acquaintance with a computer.

Advance course for managers

A sequel is provided for managers who want a more advanced course. This is "Modelling on the Micro", designed for managers, accountants, corporate planners, consultants and others who are thinking of acquiring a computer modelling system. It illustrates how computers can help with business planning and describes the various types available on the market.

The two computer workshops are among a list of over 20 short one and two-day courses currently on offer from BIM. These range from "appraisal interviewing", intended for "all line managers" and personnel specialists who wish to improve the effectiveness of their appraisal interviewing, to "Train the Trainer", a "highly practical approach covering both the fundamentals of learning and an introduction to the most up-to-date training techniques".

The courses are run by a selection of external instructors.

PT

IF YOU'RE MAKING YOUR BUSINESS HUM, WHAT'S THAT GRATING NOISE?

When orders are pouring in and being filled on time, it can come as a nasty shock to find that there isn't much profit at the end of the year.

The reasons can be many and various.

And accordingly, at Barclays, we have many and various solutions.

With our Business Advisory Service, we'll send you an executive wise in the ways of company finance, to help uncover any shortcomings and suggest ways to increase profitability.

If it's a new product or additional service that's needed we can offer a Business Start or Expansion Loan to get things off the ground.

If your export turnover is under

£500,000, you might welcome our Smaller Export Scheme.

Here, we can give you access to our ECGD insurance and, to ease the burden of cashflow, we can loan you 100% of the value of the goods you're exporting.

It could simply be of course, that you could use more manpower. In which case, our Job Creation Loans would come in mightily handy.

In certain parts of the country, you become eligible for a loan of up to £100,000 by hiring redundant steel or coal workers.

In short, if business isn't as smooth as it might be, we'll look for a way to oil the wheels.



BARCLAYS



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POLO * BLACK MAGIC * GOOD NEWS * FOX'S GLACIER MINTS
LION BAR * TOFFEE CRISP * ROWNTREE'S PASTILLES * AFTER EIGHT
WEEK-END * AERO * ROLO * DAIRY BOX * TOFFO * MATCHMAKERS
JELLYTOTS * WALNUT WHIPS * DRIFTER * BLUE RIBAND * BREAKAWAY
CREMOLA * PAN YAN PICKLES * TABLE JELLIES
SUN-PAT PEANUT BUTTER * CHEDDAR SPREAD * RILEY'S CRISPS

Rowntree Mackintosh plc York YO1 1XY.

Investment and Finance

City Editor Anthony Hilton

THE TIMES City Office 200 Gray's Inn Road London WC1X 9EZ Telephone 01-587 1234

STOCK EXCHANGES

FT Index 699.7 up 2.8 FT All Share 466.86 up 0.75... Datastream USM Leaders Index 941.20 down 0.10

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE Sterling \$1.5005 up 18pts Index 84.2 DM 3.9650 unchanged...

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates: Bank base rate 9% Finance houses base rate 10%...

GOLD

London fixed (per ounce): am \$409.50 pm \$408.75 close \$409.50 £272.50

TODAY

Interims: Arbutnot Dollar Income Trust, Charles Hurst, Macallen-Glenlivet (amended)...

ANNUAL MEETINGS

F. Copson, Penns Hall Hotel, Walmley, Sutton Coldfield, W. Midlands (3.30). Country Gentlemen's Association, Icknield Way, West Letchworth, Herts (12.15)...

Market report, p.18

Bank doubts Lawson's claim that economic recovery will last

The Bank of England remains unconvinced about the durability of the economic recovery... Mr Lawson, Chancellor of the Exchequer, in Washington this week.

High wage deals would reverse progress, says CBI... In some degree, this process is already visible, the Bank says, but it presents the picture more as a possibility than a probability.

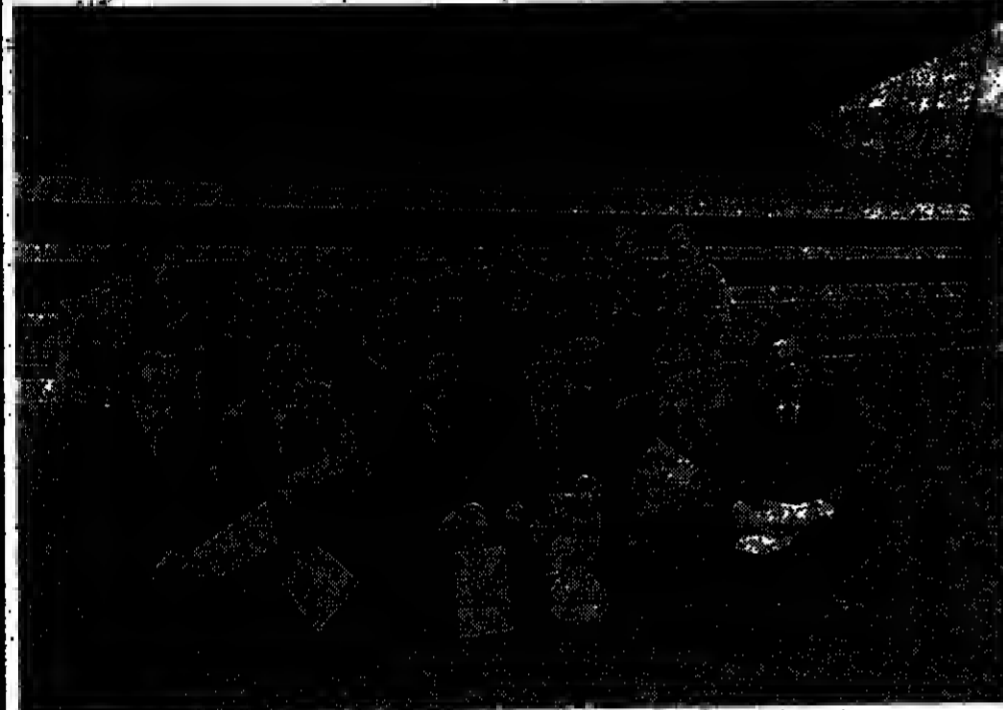
Recent improvements in productivity had made up some lost ground, but the country was on average still 20 per cent less competitive compared with the rest of Europe and Japan.

Previously, as bargaining pressures developed, we allowed earnings to rise, out of all proportion to the gain in productivity. With profits still at such low levels and with more than three million people unemployed, we cannot afford to let it happen again.

City Editor's Comment: Credibility and a base rate cut

For some time now, the proximate aim of the Government's economic policy has been to cut interest rates. Yet the Bank of England is stoutly brushing aside attempts by the money market - theoretically supposed to lead on such matters - for a further cut in bank base rates.

In the United States, weekly M1 figures have been lower than expected for several weeks in succession and the Federal Reserve Board's open market committee is expected to confirm a consequential mild easing of monetary policy next week.



Spurs chairman Alexion (third from left) with fellow directors, players and Mr Jon Sachs of Sheppards & Chase, stockbroker (far right). Photograph: David Cairns.

Tottenham goes for its market spurs

Tottenham Hotspur Football Club will give its fans details of its plans to become Britain's first publicly quoted football team when they gather for the match against Nottingham Forest on Sunday.

Mr Douglas Alexion, Spurs chairman, will wrap his pitch strip suit for a programme seller's white coat to help dish out prospectuses to the 30,000 odd spectators expected for the fixture.

Mr Douglas Alexion, Spurs chairman, will wrap his pitch strip suit for a programme seller's white coat to help dish out prospectuses to the 30,000 odd spectators expected for the fixture.

Jardine chief goes as profits slump

Jardine Matheson, the Hongkong trading company, yesterday announced the immediate departure of Mr David Newbigging, its chairman, as half-time profits dropped 65 per cent and Hong Kong Land, an associate company, went into loss.

Mr Newbigging added that the Hongkong property market was likely to remain over-supplied for at least two years and he said he doubted there would be any material contribution to the foreseeable future from the company's property projects, particularly those in Hongkong.

London analysts were saying last night that the results were hit by the performance of Hongkong Land. The performance took the steam out of the Hongkong stock market. The Hang Seng index, which had managed to recon 6 points of its earlier losses, closed 9.65 points down on the day at 767.35.

Premium rate bond launched

National Savings has launched its first product since it put its income bonds on sale in August 1982. National Savings Deposit Bonds for accumulating investment will be on sale from October 17.

Norcross 'will not lift' £75m bid for UBM

Norcross yesterday declared that it would not under any circumstances increase its cash offer of £75m for UBM, the publisher's merchant group.

UBM's shares were level with Norcross's cash offer of 125p and about 4p below the value of the share and cash offer.

Thatcher plea over US deficit

From Frances Williams and Bailey Morris, Washington Mrs Thatcher, expressing concern that the spiralling US budget deficit could destroy world recovery, said yesterday she intended to urge President Reagan to reconsider his decision not to raise revenues through tax increases.

Stocks turn mixed

New York (AP-Dow Jones) - Wall Street stocks turned mixed yesterday after giving up their gains in early trading.

Takeover Panel head is named

The new director-general of the Takeover Panel and the Council for the Securities Industry will be Mr Tim Barker of Kleinwort, Benson.

JAL and Eastern reject A300 Double blow for Airbus hopes

Airbus Industrie, the European airliner consortium, yesterday received body blows from opposite ends of the Earth that could severely damage its plan to launch a 150-seater jet in the next few years.

The Japanese Airlines (JAL) announced that it was buying a line-wide-bodied Boeing 767 aircraft, worth about \$460m (£399m), for delivery from 1986, with options on a further six, rather than the Airbus A300 or A310 models.

A320, is a particularly serious setback for the consortium. It follows months of fierce competition between the airliner market rivals and, on a broader front, will do little to reduce the trade friction between Japan and the European Community.

ARE YOU AN EXPERT ON HOME COMPUTERS?

Advertisement for Greens at Debenhams home computers. Includes text: 'Then, chances are, you need us. Because we have one of the widest ranges of hardware and software available.' and 'Then, chances are, you need us. Because we have one of the widest ranges of hardware and software available, Greens believe in talking a language we both understand - plain English.' Includes an image of a computer monitor and keyboard.

APPOINTMENTS

Operations director for Shell UK

Shell UK Exploration and Production: Mr Ian Henderson has been appointed director of operations from October 1. He will be responsible for the operations conducted by Shell Expro for the joint adventure between Shell and Esso.

Dawn of 24-hour futures trading

It was hinted tantalizingly yesterday that in the near future, possibly the next three months, a bank in London will offer corporate customer interest rates guaranteed by the bank hedging on the London International Financial Futures Exchange (Liffe).

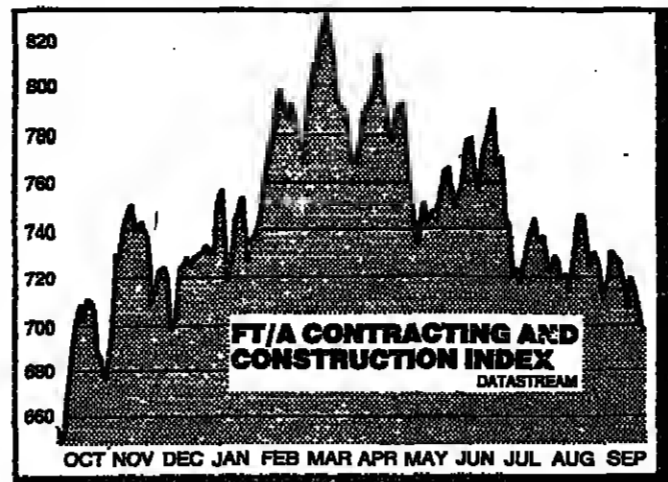
The move could be important for Liffe which, despite good progress in its first year, is still predominantly a forum for trading between members. But more than that, it will, if successful, hasten the arrival of the 24-hour global financial future market.

The first link is likely to be forged in the middle of the next year when the Singapore financial futures market opens. The International Monetary Market division of the Chicago Mercantile Exchange, which is the birthplace of financial futures has much to answer for, will join with Singapore in the first "single offset" trading agreement.

One need not call the step "revolutionary" to recognize its importance. If the linkage between the Mid-West and the Far East comes about, traders in each market will be able to cover positions by buying an opposite contract in the other market. Clearing arrangements will be similar and the contracts identical.

But how quickly the next link, London, will be forged is less obvious. Singapore has the advantage of being fresh, moulded in the Chicago image. London has gone its own way, and by the time the market is strong and secure enough to stand on its own two feet the contracts, clearing and quite possibly character of the membership will be different from either Chicago or Singapore.

The latter may be the most telling point. The banks and other institutions dominate Liffe, while in Chicago's early



As a result, the figures have emerged in line with expectations, reinforcing the bullish forecasts for the full year of about £2.5m. Not bad for a company showing a meagre £1.4m for the full year in 1982.

Not mentioned in the announcement, but of significance, are expectations of a "better-than-average" turnaround in overseas.

The managerial changes have done much to restore City confidence, reflected by the improvement in the company's share price from the year's low of 52p to the present level of 147p.

At the price there is not a great deal of growth left, but for those already holding the shares the future looks promising, particularly as housing orders are well above last year's level.

Construction industry

George Wimpey Half-year to 30.6.83 Pretax profit £8.2m (£8.2m) Turnover £515m (£517m) Net interim dividend 0.85p (0.85p) Dividend payable 2.12.83

John Laing Half-year to 30.6.83 Pretax profit £8.1m (£8.4m) Turnover £255m (£253m) Net interim dividend 1.25p (1p) Dividend payable 10.11.83

Both John Laing's and George Wimpey's profit figures illustrate the recovery in new housing sales which is dwarfing the rest of the construction sector.

George Wimpey also revealed profits on target and similarly reports an improvement in new housing demand. Building is well up on a year ago

and, like Laing, is benefiting from an internal restructuring and management changes.

Mr Cliff Cherwood moves from chief executive to executive chairman in January. Since 1979 he has cut the workforce by 37 per cent.

Capitalized at only half of its current cost net asset figure of £700m, Wimpey has plenty of room to raise funds if it wishes. That in turn could lead to a near doubling of profits over the next couple of years. The shares at 115p offer some growth potential and the dividend cover of 2.9 is roomy.

Superdrug Stores Half-year to 27.8.83. Pretax profit £2.8m (£2.2m) Turnover £45.7m (£38.8m) Net interim dividend 1.25p (1p) Share price 258p, down 2p.

Superdrug Stores has sustained strong progress since its well-publicized stock market launch in February by recording impressive results at the interim stage.

Record first half at House of Fraser

House of Fraser is back in the black with a record set of first-half figures. The dividend has been lifted 25 per cent and the group has seen significant sales increases in the first two months of the second half.

But in common with other retailers, Fraser makes most of its profit in its last quarter, from November to January. Fears of a sharp fall in consumer spending, which has dropped from a peak in June are not shared by the Fraser directors.

The 7.5p per share dividend is being paid partly to reflect optimism of full-time results and partly to reduce the disparity between the interim and the final dividend.

It is being paid from pretax profits of £4.58m which compare with a £387,000 pretax loss in the previous first half. Sales increased from £364m to almost £390m.

Fraser directors point out that about 10 of the group's major stores were not operating flat-out during the period because of refurbishing and developments. Some provincial stores, formerly the loss-making end of the business, have

moved into profit as a result of internal cost cutting. Further cuts will be made in the group's workforce before the end of the year as part of the merger of its 52-store Binnis and Northern Trading groups. The interim figures have caused analysts to revise full-year forecasts to around £40m pretax with a 20 per cent rise in total dividends.

As a result of the improved performance from the provincial stores the percentage proportion of profits contributed by Harrods, the group's flagship, dropped from 50 per cent to nearer 25 per cent.

Its performance relative to the rest of Fraser's 105 stores is central to the argument of whether it ought to be floated

Clyde Petroleum

Having dipped their toes into the North Sea and having found the water too deep, Britain's smaller oil companies are concentrating their activity and investment on onshore oil production.

But it is unfair to suggest that companies such as Clyde Petroleum, which announced half-year profits yesterday of £1.7m compared with losses of £570,000 in the full year to December 1982, should ignore the North Sea.

Like other companies of similar size, Clyde has switched its attention to the British onshore sites which could prove to be profitable for a comparatively small outlay. An oil company chaired by a geologist rather than an accountant is always worth a thought.

Clyde fits that bill, and now that it has cleared the decks and become an oil and gas exploration company unencumbered by other interests it could be able to take advantage of the Budget concession to the North Sea oil exploration industry.

WALL STREET

Table of Wall Street stock prices including companies like Amgen, Amgen, Amgen, etc.

COMMODITIES

Table of commodity prices including LONDON COMMODITY PRICES, RUBBER, LONDON METAL EXCHANGE, COPPER, ZINC, ALUMINIUM, NICKEL, SHORT STEELING, and WHEAT AND LIVESTOCK COMMISSION.

COMPANY NEWS IN BRIEF

Table of company news including APV Holdings, Gratian, HTV Group, Aberdeen Construction Group, Bentalls, Suter Electrical, Cashek (Holdings), MCD, and Base Lending Rates.

Superdrug INTERIM STATEMENT 26 weeks to 27 August 1983 (Unaudited). Includes turnover, profit, and dividend information.

Commonwealth of Australia Twenty Year 5 1/2% Bonds due November 1, 1985. Includes details on bond redemption and coupon payments.

ACORN COMPUTER Acorn Computer Group plc Offer for Sale by Tender by Lazard Brothers & Co., Limited of 11,230,172 Ordinary Shares of 1p each at a minimum tender price of 120p per share, the price tendered being payable in full on application.

Handwritten text at the bottom of the page: 15/9/83

Torin Douglas reports on the need for more competition in the professions

The case for lifting restrictions on solicitors' advertising

Last month, the Institute of Practitioners in Advertising, which represents agencies in Britain, launched a campaign to persuade the Law Society to relax its ban on advertising by solicitors. The IPA claims that this hinders competition and efficiency and prevents the public being given adequate information about the services offered by individual solicitors.

Such arguments are only to be expected from a body representing agencies. But what adds strength to the IPA's case is that similar recommendations have been made by the Office of Fair Trading, two reports of the Monopolies and Mergers Commission, the Royal Commission on Legal Services and the Consumers' Association.

Next month, at the Law Society's conference in Paris, the Consumers' Association's legal adviser, Mr David Tench, will argue that solicitors should be allowed to advertise on the grounds that this will give better information to the public and will open up the legal services to healthy competition. "By stimulating competition, prices should come down," he says.

"The only thing worse than misleading advertising is a prohibition on advertising."

The argument is not confined to the provision of legal services. Earlier this year, the Director-General of Fair Trading recommended that the ban on advertising by opticians should be lifted. "Our principal conclusion is that the advertising restrictions result in prices being significantly higher and efficiency significantly lower than they otherwise would be," states the report on Opticians and Competition.

Chartered accountants, too, are in the middle of a debate on their restrictions and the English Institute of Chartered Accountants is expected to publish a discussion document on the subject soon. Suddenly, it seems, the professions are having to reconsider their long-standing aversion to advertising.

The opposition of the professions to advertising was expressed to the Bar Council's evidence to the Monopolies Commission inquiry in 1970. "Advertising is generally regarded as inconsistent with the whole conception of a professional man as one who joins his professional colleagues in the performance of a service to the community, who is bound by strict rules of conduct in his relations with his colleagues and his clients and who recognizes a higher duty than that of mere compliance with his client's wishes whatever they may be."

To other evidence to the Monopolies Commission, the

Effect of advertising on price variations

Prescription no	Spectacle prescriptions - not advertised		Difference
	No of quotes	Full range of prices	
1	61	37 - 85	48
2	53	42 - 69	26
3	53	50 - 90	40
4	52	31 - 66	35
5	53	38 - 70	32
6	58	44 - 103	59
Cameras - advertised			
	No of quotes	Full range of prices	Difference
Canon Snappy 20	44	48 - 65	17
Nikon EM	46	87 - 100	13

Source: Opticians and Competition, Office of Fair Trading, December 1982

Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors, among others, said: "The professions as a whole... have believed that, in general, freedom to test members of the public to give them instructions for professional work would often result in members of the public, especially the less well-informed, being prevailed upon to give their instructions to those who would serve them less well and less disinterestedly than those who are modest about their personal attainments and who do not push themselves forward to offer a service."

Advertising means lower prices and increased efficiency

The argument that advertising might lead to reduced efficiency and quality of service is rejected by those arguing for the relaxation of the restrictions to be relaxed, not least because of the increasing specialization within many professions.

In the case of solicitors, for example, the Royal Commission on Legal Services stated: "The increasing complexity of legislation and the law means that no solicitor can be competent in handling every kind of problem. Yet, unless a solicitor is permitted to state which kinds of problem he is competent to handle, the client has no way of knowing whether he is getting good advice or not."

Mr Philip Circus, a barrister who is legal adviser to the IPA, maintains there are many smaller firms of solicitors whose range of competence is limited. "In the IPA's submission to the president of the Law Society, he writes: 'I have seen graphic illustrations of this resulting from my experience in the world of advertising, an area touched by a number of specialized areas of law - copyright, lotteries and competitions, food labelling and consumer protection legislation, to name just a few.'"

"When advertising agencies have sought the advice of their solicitors there have been cases where the result has been advice given in ignorance of major decisions or, sometimes, on the basis of statistics that have been repealed. And another practice which appears to be not uncommon is for a solicitor to send off all the papers to counsel and tell the client that the case involves some difficult point of law."

For this reason, says Mr Circus, advertising is needed to bring an awareness to the public of the increased specialization of solicitors. It can also bring increased efficiency and lower prices, he says, citing the evidence in the OFT report on opticians which stated that increased competition brought about by the freedom to advertise could reduce the price of private spectacles by up to 28 per cent, without reducing profit levels.

"I don't see why a solicitor should not be allowed to

advertise a price," he says. "At the moment there is no incentive for a solicitor to reduce his charges because he has no way of telling people his prices are lower. But even if the price advertised did not represent a reduction, it would still be of benefit to the public, who otherwise have no way of knowing what a particular legal task may cost."

"Many people think the law is just for criminals and the very rich," says Mr Michael Waterson, research director of the Advertising Association. "This is at least partly because they

The profession is very divided on this issue

have no information to guide them."

For some other professions, such as accountancy, it is argued, the inability to advertise is actually losing accountants business, since traditional areas of work are now being handled by companies which are permitted to advertise, such as banks. Mr Ian Percy, managing partner in the London office of Thornton Baker, one of the country's largest accountancy firms says: "The accountancy profession must have the facility to communicate with the public through newspapers and other forms of publicity. It's not so much a question of

selling one's services as telling people what is available." Mr Norman Barton, secretary to the ethics committee of the English Institute of Chartered Accountants, maintains: "The profession is very much divided on this issue. As a direct result of pressure from the Monopolies Commission and the OFT, we introduced some minor relaxations in 1981 and this has had the inevitable effect that people are now questioning the other restrictions. Until the profession has had the chance to comment on our discussion paper, we really don't know what the outcome will be."

But it is advertising's effect on prices which many people regard as the central issue. The Federal Trade Commission in the United States reported that people paid 32 per cent less for spectacles in areas where optometrists were permitted to advertise, while the OFT's report on opticians shows the wide variation in the prices of spectacles, compared with the variation in the price of cameras, which may be advertised.

"The table shows a much narrower range of prices for cameras than in the case of spectacles, supporting the contention that in a market where advertising is allowed, the better information available to consumers will increase the effectiveness of competition and bring about a greater similarity of prices," claims the report.

Underlying these arguments is a fresh view of the role of advertising, in which the business that was once widely seen as wasteful and expensive is now hailed as the consumer's friend. "There has been a radical change in opinion in the last few years, as new information has come out about how advertising works, particularly with regard to its effect in reducing prices," declares Mr Waterson.

"As yet there are regrettably few studies of this kind, but their findings are all consistent with the view that advertising is an important means of competition. When advertising is allowed, consumers are better able to search for lower prices, while producers have a greater incentive to reduce costs. The studies show that the effect of imposing price restrictions is to raise prices and that the effect of relaxing them is to reduce prices."

"Where public policy is concerned, these are absolutely crucial findings and lead, in my view, to the conclusion that advertising restrictions in the professions are an indefensible restrictive practice that costs UK consumers many millions of pounds each year."



Interim Statement

for the half year ended 30th June, 1983

	6 months to 30.6.83 £m	6 months to 30.6.82 £m
Turnover - Work carried out by the Group including attributable Share of Associates	616.0	517.0
Operating Profit including Share of Associates	16.1	13.4
Interest Payable less Receivable	7.9	7.2
Profit Before Taxation	8.2	6.2
Taxation	2.0	1.2
Profit After Taxation Attributable to Shareholders	6.2	5.0

The directors have decided to declare an interim dividend of 0.85p per share (0.85p) totalling £2,293,600 (£2,176,000*) which will be paid on 6th January, 1984 to ordinary shareholders on the register at 2nd December, 1983. (*1982 interim dividend).

The Chairman, Sir Reginald Smith, comments:

For the six months ended 30th June 1983, unaudited profits before tax were £8.2 million compared with £6.2 million in the six months to the end of June 1982. The directors have declared an interim dividend of 0.85p per share which in effect is an increase of 10% compared to the previous interim dividend because of the increase in the issued share capital.

In the United Kingdom good progress has been made by Wimpey Homes with the legal completion of the sale of 4,200 houses achieved in the six months to the end of June compared to 3,600 in the same

period in 1982. Progress has also been made in construction, waste management and building materials.

In North America investments in housing and land in the USA are making a worthwhile contribution and firm action is being taken in Canada to mitigate the difficult market conditions. Elsewhere important contracts have been won and the Group's order book is higher than at this time last year.

George Wimpey PLC
Hammersmith Grove,
London W6 7EN.

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RACING: 50-1 MIDDLE PARK STAKES WINNER LEAVES LEAF FAN FAVORITE FOR 2,000 GUINEAS

Cautchen rides by the copybook on Creag-An-Sgor

Lear Fan is clear favourite for next season's 2,000 Guineas at 6-1 after Vacamre's unexpected defeat by the 50-1 outsider Creag-an-sgor in the William Hill Middle Park Stakes at Newmarket yesterday.

Staying on resolutely, Creag-an-sgor increased his advantage to win by one and a half lengths. Superlative previously, the winner of the July Flying Childers Stakes, finished one and a half lengths away in third place, followed by Executive Man, Novello and Hegemony.



Broadwater Music (left) striking a winning note at Newmarket yesterday

Trainers in bullet-proof vests

Things may be going dreadfully wrong for Henry Cecil, but as he mopes around Newmarket looking about as happy as a chicken with its tail in a blender...

Sharaya seems to be best of home team in open Arc

From Desmond Stoneham, French Racing Correspondent, Paris. There now looks like being 25 runners in Sunday's Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe at Longchamp.

Francom e and O'Neill on form

John Francom e and Jojo O'Neill showed what champions are made of when winning in contrasting styles on Gringo and Alfie Dickinson at Ludlow yesterday.

Overseas transfer ban is lifted

The ban on international transfers imposed in 1977, was lifted at the International Board meeting in New Zealand.

Hockey Eckersall to lead Great Britain

Many Eckersall (Lancashire) is the new captain of Great Britain. She has been playing for England for some years but was off form in 1982 and lost her place.

Haydock Park

Racing schedule for Haydock Park including race numbers, names, and odds.

Newmarket

Racing schedule for Newmarket including race numbers, names, and odds.

Wincanton

Racing schedule for Wincanton including race numbers, names, and odds.

Sedgefield

Racing schedule for Sedgefield including race numbers, names, and odds.

Haydock Park (continued)

Continuation of racing schedule for Haydock Park.

Newmarket (continued)

Continuation of racing schedule for Newmarket.

Wincanton (continued)

Continuation of racing schedule for Wincanton.

Sedgefield (continued)

Continuation of racing schedule for Sedgefield.

Bolton Stakes

Racing schedule for Bolton Stakes.

Newmarket selections

Selections for Newmarket races.

Wincanton selections

Selections for Wincanton races.

Sedgefield selections

Selections for Sedgefield races.

Bryn Handicap

Racing schedule for Bryn Handicap.

Newmarket selections (continued)

Continuation of selections for Newmarket.

Wincanton selections (continued)

Continuation of selections for Wincanton.

Sedgefield selections (continued)

Continuation of selections for Sedgefield.

Altrincham Stakes

Racing schedule for Altrincham Stakes.

Newmarket selections (continued)

Continuation of selections for Newmarket.

Wincanton selections (continued)

Continuation of selections for Wincanton.

Sedgefield selections (continued)

Continuation of selections for Sedgefield.

Today's fixtures section listing various sports events including football, cricket, and golf.

ANNOUNCEMENTS
Imperial Cancer Research Fund
WORLD LEADERS IN CANCER RESEARCH
Please support our work through a donation, in memory of a loved one, or by sending off for this year's FREE 20 page Christmas Calendar.

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS
SKI + FLY + SKI THE BEST VALUE THIS SEASON
1 WK AIR HOTEL FROM £99
WALKS, SKIING, FISHING, BOATING, SPA, GOLF, etc.

PERSONAL COLUMNS
HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS
LAST MINUTE VILLA HOLIDAY BARGAINS
Example: 2 Dec 7 days £120 £100
3 Dec 7 days £140 £110

LEGAL NOTES
In the Matter of STANLEY ADAMS and in the Matter of the creditors of STANLEY ADAMS
Notice is hereby given that the creditors of STANLEY ADAMS, who is being liquidated, should file their claims on or before the 10th day of October 1983.

PERSONAL SECRETARY
for the Chairman of an International, privately owned Group of Companies
Based: Switzerland. Five figure negotiable.
This is undoubtedly a most challenging, interesting and personally satisfying position, calling for a dynamic and mature person with initiative, diplomacy, self-reliance, considerable stamina and who enjoys a fast amount of shorthand and typing.

FLATSHARING
SOUTH KENSINGTON - 2 B R & 2 Bath
Large suite of large sitting room, double bedroom, full kitchen, bathroom, phone, TV, etc.

PERSONAL SECRETARY
for the Chairman of an International, privately owned Group of Companies
Based: Switzerland. Five figure negotiable.

PERSONAL COLUMNS
HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS
LAST MINUTE VILLA HOLIDAY BARGAINS
Example: 2 Dec 7 days £120 £100
3 Dec 7 days £140 £110

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Example: 2 Dec 7 days £120 £100
3 Dec 7 days £140 £110

PERSONAL COLUMNS
HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS
LAST MINUTE VILLA HOLIDAY BARGAINS
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3 Dec 7 days £140 £110

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